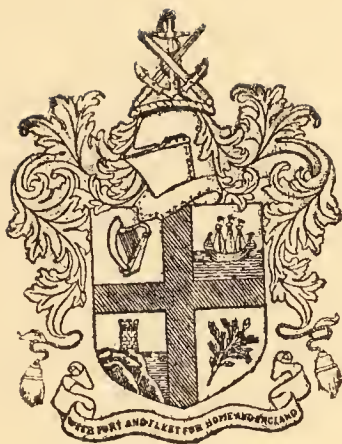


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Kent



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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

AND

## School Medical Officer

for the

Year ended 31st December, 1937

BY

W. A. MUIR, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health  
Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare Centre  
School Medical Officer



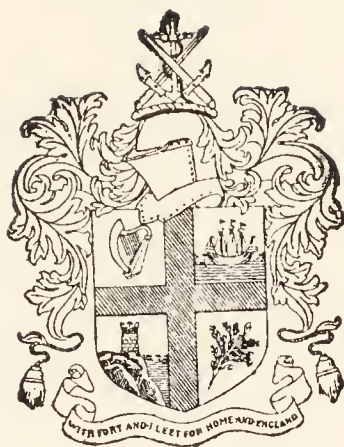
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# INDEX

	PAGE		PAGE
Abatement Notices ...	54	Dairies ...	41
Acute Poliomyelitis...	17	Dampness ...	53
Adenoids ...	24	Deaf Children ...	81, 94
After Care ...	83	Death Rates ...	2, 5, 6, 7, 61
Ambulance Facilities ...	11	Deaths,—Ages of ...	8, 63
Anaesthetist ...	4	„ Cancer ...	8
Analysis of mortality ...	61	„ Causes of ...	8, 62, 63
Arte-Natal Clinic ...	10, 29	„ Infant ...	6, 7, 62
Ante-Natal examination by		„ In Institutions ...	7
Doctors ...	30	„ Maternal ...	6
Anti-toxin ...	15	„ Number of ...	5, 6, 60
Area ...	5	„ Transferable ...	60
Assistant M.O.H. ...	4	Defects, Return of 27, 49, 53, 77, 92	
Attendances at treatment		„ Remedied 49, 53, 70, 77, 92	
Centres ...	26, 68, 76	Deformities ...	97
Bacteriological Examina-		Delicate Children ...	96
tions ...	11, 42, 15	Demolitions ...	46, 49
Bakehouses ...	41	Dental Anaesthetist ...	4, 66
Baths... ..	53	„ Clinic ...	9, 25, 78, 100
Birth Control ...	10, 37	„ Inspections... ..	78, 100
Birth Rate ...	2, 5, 6, 60, 61	„ Surgeon ...	4, 66
Births.—Number of 5, 6, 23, 60, 62		Diphtheria ...	15, 18, 58-63, 74, 87
„ Still ...	5, 6, 62	„ Immunization ...	10, 15
„ Twin ...	23	„ Immunizator ...	4
Blindness ...	22, 81, 94	Diseases of the Skin... ..	59
Boarded-out children ...	38	Disinfection ...	18
Bye-laws ...	12	Disinfestation ...	57
Cancer ...	8	Dispensary, Tuberculosis ...	10, 21
Canteens ...	72	Drainage ...	52, 53
Carbide of Calcium ...	58	Drains Tested ...	52
Carcases inspected ...	45	Dried Milk ...	28
Causes of Death ...	8, 62, 63	Dustbins ...	54
Cerebrospinal fever ...	17	Dysentary ...	17
Cesspools ...	52	Ear Defects ...	70, 77
Chatham Water Company	50	Early Closing ...	56
Chicken Pox ...	17, 75, 87	Earth Closets ...	52
Child Welfare Centres ...	9, 25	Education Committee ...	66
Chorea ...	80	„ Gross cost of ...	68
Cleanliness ...	75	Enlarged Tonsils and	
Clerical Staff ...	4, 66	Adenoids ...	24
Clinics ...	9, 10, 77	Enteric Fever ...	17, 18, 58-63
Closet Accommodation ...	52	Epileptics ...	81, 95
Comparability factor ...	7	Erysipelas ...	53-63
Comparitive mortality ...	8	Examinations—Bacterio-	
Conveniences ...	52	logical ...	11, 51
Co-operation of Teachers ...	84	„ Milk ...	42
„ „ Voluntary		Exceptional Children ...	81
Bodies ...	38, 84	Exclusions ...	68, 86
Corrected death rate ...	7	Expectant Mothers... ..	10, 29, 30
Council Houses ...	47	Eye Diseases ...	24, 70, 77
Cows, Inspection of... ..	42	Factories and Workshops	
Cowsheds ...	41	Acts ...	54, 55
Crippled Children ...	25, 97	Feeble-minded Children ...	95
Crippling Defects ...	25, 97	Feeding, methods of ...	28, 29



	PAGE
Following up ... ..	75
Food and Drugs Adulteration Act ... ..	42
Food, Inspection and supervision of ... ..	41
„ Samples ... ..	42
„ Unsound ... ..	43
Foster Mothers ... ..	38
Free Milk ... ..	28, 71
Fried Fish ... ..	41, 46
German Measles ... ..	87
Heads ... ..	75
Health Propaganda... ..	13
Health Visitors ... ..	4
„ „ Visits of ... ..	24
Heart Disease in Children ... ..	80, 97
Heights and Weights ... ..	71
Home Nursing ... ..	9
„ Visiting ... ..	24
Hospitals ... ..	10, 18
Houses,—Demolished ... ..	46
„ Inspection of ... ..	48
„ Made fit ... ..	46
„ New ... ..	3, 46
„ Number of ... ..	5
Housing Acts ... ..	46
„ Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	48
Housing Defects ... ..	49
„ Prosecutions ... ..	57
„ Summary ... ..	46, 47, 48
Hygiene of Schools ... ..	69
Ice Cream ... ..	45
Illegitimate Births ... ..	5, 6
Immunization against Diphtheria ... ..	10, 15
Impetigo ... ..	70
Increase of Population ... ..	7
Infant Deaths 2, 6, 7, 39, 40, 60	
„ Feeding ... ..	28, 29
„ Life Protection ... ..	38
„ Welfare Centres ... ..	9, 25
Infectious Diseases 2, 13-22, 58-63, 74, 87	
„ „ —Ages of Cases ... ..	59
„ „ —Hospital Treatment ... ..	18, 59
„ „ —Incidence of ... ..	58, 59, 87
„ „ —Seasonal Incidence ... ..	58

	PAGE
Influenza Deaths ... ..	62, 63
Inspections,—Cows... ..	42
„ Food ... ..	41
„ Housing ... ..	48
„ Routine ... ..	68, 69, 91
„ Special ... ..	69, 91
Institutional Midwifery ... ..	31
„ Treatment ... ..	18, 59
Institutional Treatment of illegitimate Infants ... ..	11
Institutional Treatment of Unmarried Mothers ... ..	11
Isolation Hospital ... ..	18, 59
Laboratory Work ... ..	11
Lavatories ... ..	52
Legal Proceedings ... ..	43, 56
Legitimate Births ... ..	5, 6
Licences ... ..	58
Life Saving ... ..	74
Malaria ... ..	17
Malignant Disease ... ..	8, 62, 63
Malnutrition ... ..	71, 93
Maternal Mortality ... ..	6, 37
Maternity and Child Welfare 2, 22	
„ „ „ „ Centres ... ..	9
Maternity Homes ... ..	31
Measles ... ..	17, 75, 87
Meat,—Inspection of ... ..	45
„ Pressed and Preserved ... ..	41, 45
„ Prosecutions ... ..	57
„ Unsound ... ..	43
Medical Help ... ..	35
Medical Inspections... ..	69, 91
Medical Treatment ... ..	76, 91
Mental Defectives ... ..	81, 95, 101
Methods of Feeding ... ..	28, 29
Mice ... ..	56
Midwives ... ..	9, 32, 36
„ Act, 1936 ... ..	3
„ Fees ... ..	36
„ Municipal ... ..	36
„ Supervision of ... ..	31
Midwifery,—Institutional ... ..	31
Milk,—Accredited ... ..	42
„ Examination of ... ..	42
„ Graded ... ..	41
„ Pasteurized ... ..	41-42
„ Prosecutions ... ..	56
„ Provision of ... ..	28, 71
„ Samples ... ..	42
„ Special Designations Order ... ..	41
„ Supply ... ..	41

	PAGE
Milk—Tuberculin Tested	41, 42
Milkshops ... ..	41
Minor Ailments ... ..	24, 98
Mortality,—Analysis of ...	61
„ Comparative	8
„ Infant 6, 7, 60,	61
„ Maternal 6, 37	61, 62
Mortuary ... ..	58
Mumps ... ..	75, 87
Municipal Midwives ...	32
N.S.P.C.C. ... ..	38
Natural Increase of Population ... ..	7
Neo-Natal Deaths ... ..	39-40
New Houses ... ..	3, 46
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases ... ..	17, 75
Nose and Throat Defects	70, 77, 99
Notices,—Abatement ...	54
„ Preliminary ...	54
Nuisances ... ..	53
Nursing Homes ... ..	31
Nursing in the Home ...	9
Nutrition ... ..	46, 70, 93
Occupation Centre ... ..	83
Ophthalmic Clinic ... ..	24, 77
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	38, 58-63
Orders ... ..	12
Orthopaedics ... ..	79, 100
Outdoor Relief ... ..	5
Outworkers Premises ...	52
Overcrowding ... ..	47
Pail Closets ... ..	52
Paratyphoid... ..	17, 18
Partially Blind ... ..	94
Partially Deaf ... ..	94
Pasteurized Milk ... ..	41
Payments for Treatment ...	80
Petroleum ... ..	58
Physical Training ... ..	72
Physical Defects ... ..	96
Pneumonia ... ..	17, 58-63
Poliomyelitis ... ..	17
Population ... ..	2, 5, 6, 60
„ Increase of ... ..	2, 60
Post-natal Cases ... ..	29
Postural Defects ... ..	79, 100
Potted Meats ... ..	45
Preliminary Notices ...	54
Premises Visited ... ..	41, 52
Pressed and Preserved Meat	41, 45
Privies ... ..	52
Proceedings ... ..	43, 56

	PAGE
Propaganda ... ..	13
Prosecutions ... ..	43
Provision of Dustbins ...	54
„ „ Milk ... ..	28, 71
„ „ Spectacles ...	65
Public Assistance ... ..	5
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	6, 36, 58-63
Rainfall ... ..	51
Rainham Water Company	50
Rateable Value ... ..	5
Rates ... ..	5
Rats and Mice Destruction Act ... ..	56
Refuse Collections ... ..	52
Regulations ... ..	12
Re-inspections ... ..	69, 91
Restaurants ... ..	41
Rheumatism... ..	80
Ringworm ... ..	11, 70
Routine Medical Inspections	69, 70, 91
Samples,—Food ... ..	42
„ Milk ... ..	42
„ Water... ..	51
Sanitary,—Circumstances ...	50
„ Dustbins ... ..	54
„ Inspection ... ..	52
„ Inspectors ... ..	4
Scabies ... ..	70
Scarlet Fever 14, 58-63, 74,	87
Schick Test ... ..	16
School,—Canteens ... ..	72
„ Clinics ... ..	9
„ Medical Committee	66
„ „ Depart- ment— cost of... ..	68
„ „ Summary	68
„ Nurses' visits ...	66
Sewerage ... ..	52
Shellfish ... ..	46
Shops Acts ... ..	56, 57
Sinks ... ..	53
Skin Diseases ... ..	70
Slaughterhouses ... ..	41, 44
Slaughtering ... ..	45
Slaughter of Animals Act ...	45
Slaughtermen ... ..	45
Smallpox ... ..	13
Social conditions ... ..	5
Special inspections ... ..	91
„ school ... ..	83
Spectacles, provision of ...	77
Sputum examinations ... ..	11
Squint ... ..	70, 99



	PAGE
Staff ... ..	4, 66, 69
Statistical summary ...	5, 68
„ tables ...	58-63, 91-101
Statutory notices ...	54
Still-births ... ..	5
Streptococci ... ..	11
Supervision of midwives ...	31
„ „ food ...	41
Swabs ... ..	11
Swimming ... ..	73, 74
„ pool ... ..	58
Teachers, co-operation of ...	84
Throats ... ..	70, 77, 99
Toddlers' clinic ... ..	10, 26
Tonsils ... ..	24
Treatment Centres ...	9, 10, 76
„ of school children	76
Tuberculous ... ..	19-21, 96
„ —Death Rate	20
„ —Dispensary	10, 21
Tuberculous children ...	96
Twin Births ... ..	23
Typhoid ... ..	17, 18, 58-63

	PAGE
Uncleanliness 75, 84, 85, 87, 100	
Unmarried Mothers... ..	11
Unsound Food ... ..	43
Vaccination ... ..	13
Venereal Diseases ... ..	22
„ „ Clinic ...	10
Verminous Children ...	68, 100
Veterinary Inspection ...	42
„ Inspector ...	4
Vision ... ..	70, 99
Visits of Health Visitors ...	24
„ „ School Nurses ...	68, 75
Vital Statistics ...	2, 5, 60
Water Closets ... ..	53
„ Samples ... ..	51, 58
„ Supply ... ..	50, 53, 54
Weights ... ..	71
Welfare Centres ... ..	9, 25
Whooping Cough ... ..	17, 75
Workshops and Workplaces	54, 55
Yards ... ..	53



**HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1937-1938.**

Composed of all the Members of the Council.

**Chairman :**

Alderman J. W. DOBSON.

---

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE  
COMMITTEE, 1937-1938.**

Composed of all the Members of the Council, and the following  
Co-opted Members :—

Mrs. Eley.

Mrs. H. Hurwitz.

Miss V. Worthy.

**Chairman :**

Alderman Mrs. B. J. PARR.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
GILLINGHAM, KENT.

May, 1938.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Gillingham.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Population.

The Registrar General's estimate for the year is 69,320, an increase of 4,530 compared with the previous year. This represents an average of more than four persons per house on the rate books, and an increase of 8,337 since the census in 1931.

#### Birth Rate.

The corrected rate was 15.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is the highest figure since 1933.

#### Death Rate.

The corrected rate was 11.6 per 1,000 persons living, the highest figure since 1931. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 12.4.

#### Infant Mortality Rate.

The death rate amongst infants during the first year of life was 53 per 1,000 estimated births, an increase over the figures for the previous two years.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet fever was prevalent but only one case proved fatal. The incidence of diphtheria was low. Measles was almost completely absent.

Notifications of tuberculosis of the lungs were below the average and the death rate was one of the lowest recorded locally.

## MATERNITY and CHILD WELFARE

The facilities provided at the centres and elsewhere are well patronised. The maternal mortality rate was 0.91 per 1,000 births, the lowest ever recorded in the Borough. The corresponding figure for England and Wales was 3.1. More than 50 per cent. of the births took place in institutions.

### Midwives' Act, 1936.

This came into force during the year. To provide an adequate service the Council appointed five municipal midwives. The scheme is working well and surprisingly few difficulties have been encountered.

## HOUSING

375 new houses were erected during the year. Of these, eight were council houses. Overcrowding in Council houses is now practically abolished and there is little in privately-owned property.

I wish to thank the staff for their continued assistance without which it would be impossible to carry out efficiently the multifarious duties of the department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. MUIR,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## STAFF—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

\*W. A. Muir, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health :*

\*Meta L. Dunlop, M.D., D.P.H.

*Anaesthetist (part time).*

S. BATHER, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Diphtheria Immunisator (part time).*

DR. AGNES KELLY, (appointed April 1938)

*Dental Surgeon (part time).*

F. J. BLOOR, L.D.S. (Eng.)

*Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

\*David L. Ball, C.R.S.I.

*Sanitary Inspectors :*

\*G. H. Ridgway, C.R.S.I.,

\*W. G. McDonald, Cert. S.I.B.

\*R. C. Langley, Cert. S.I.B.

\*†S. Davies, Cert. S.I.B.

*Veterinary Inspector (part time) :*

Elmer Ebbetts, M.R.C.V.S.

*Health Visitors :*

\*§Mrs. A. Leach (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

\*†§Miss R. Hopkins (C.M.B. Cert.).

\*†||Miss N. Legg (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

\*†||Miss E. M. Ross (C.M.B. Cert.).

\*†§Miss M. Hughes (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

\*†§Miss H. Parry (C.M.B. Cert., Health Visitor's Cert.).

appointed April 1937

*Chief Clerk :*

F. Eric Young.

*Clerks :*

E. Rundle.

S. Pett.

V. P. Johnson.

Miss V. Marsh, (appointed April 1937)

*Ambulance Driver and Mortuary Attendant :*

John Sparks.

\* Indicates officials to whose salaries contribution is made under the Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

† Indicates general trained nurse.

‡ Also Inspector under Shop Acts.

§ Two-thirds time given to Maternity and Child Welfare, one-third to School Medical work.

|| Half-time given to School Medical work, half to Maternity and Child Welfare.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA IN ACRES (land, inland water and foreshore) ... 11,278

POPULATION ... { 69,320 (Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year 1937.  
60,983 (Census, 1931).

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES  
(end of 1937) according to  
Rate Books ... 17,100

RATEABLE VALUE (April, 1937) £345,809

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY  
RATE, 1937-38 ... £1,338

In 1937-38 the total Rates were 13/- in the £. (excluding water rate and charges).

Average weekly number of persons in receipt of  
Outdoor Relief during the year ended 31st March,  
1938 ... 760

Amount paid in Outdoor Relief, year ended 31st  
March, 1938 ... £13,054

Number of Gillingham persons admitted to the  
Medway Hospital during the year ended 31st  
March, 1938 ... 650

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS :

		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births	Legitimate	1,036	544	492	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 15.35
	Illegitimate	28	13	15	
	TOTALS ...	1,064	557	507	
Still Births	...	30	19	11	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births :— 27.42
		(all legitimate)			

### DEATHS :

All causes	...	770	401	369	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 11.11
------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	I	0.91
Other puerperal causes ...	—	—
	—	—
TOTAL ...	I	0.91
	—	—

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	53
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	49
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	179
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	4

## VITAL STATISTICS.

**Population.**

The Registrar-General's estimate of population in June 1937 was 69,320 compared with 64,790 in the previous year.

**Birth Rate.**

Registered live births numbered 1,286 but after correction for inward and outward transfers the net number properly belonging to Gillingham is 1,064. This represents a birth rate of 15.35 per 1,000 of the population.

The rate for England and Wales was 14.9 and for London 13.3 per 1,000 of the population.

**Illegitimate Live Births.**

The number assigned by the Registrar-General is 28 or 2.6 per cent., of all live births. This figure alters little from year to year.

**Still-Births.**

The number registered was 30 of which none was illegitimate.

**Death Rate.**

Deaths of persons properly belonging to the Borough numbered 770 of which 401 were males and 369 females. The crude death rate was therefore 11.11 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The figure for the previous year was 10.5 per 1,000. The death rate for England and Wales was 12.4 and for London 12.3.

The Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor which when multiplied by the crude death rate in the area modifies the latter so as to make it comparable with the crude death rate for the country as a whole or with the similarly adjusted death rate for any other area.

The factor for Gillingham being 1.04, the adjusted death rate is 11.55 which is comparable with the figure of 12.4 for England and Wales.

### Deaths in Public Institutions.

Three hundred and twenty-five deaths or 42.2 per cent. of the total took place in institutions :—

County Hospital, Chatham (Medway Hospital)	...	186
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester	... ..	49
County Mental Hospital, Barming Heath	... ..	7
Keycol Hill Hospital	... ..	2
Other Institutions	... ..	81
TOTAL		325

### Natural Increase of Population.

This is measured by the excess of births over deaths. The figure for the year 1937 was 294 and for previous years as follows :

Year	Natural Increase of Population				
1929	...	...	...	...	318
1930	...	...	...	...	342
1931	...	...	...	...	227
1932	...	...	...	...	339
1933	...	...	...	...	275
1934	...	...	...	...	234
1935	...	...	...	...	230
1936	...	...	...	...	252
1937	...	...	...	...	294

### Infant Mortality.

The rate for the year was **53 per 1,000 births.** (Details given in Maternity and Child Welfare Section of Report).



### Comparative Mortality.

The following figures for the years 1915-1937 are inserted for comparative purposes.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.	Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
1915-1924	22.9	12.3	64.7	.99
1925	16.6	10.2	51.5	.6
1926	16.4	11.3	51	1.0
1927	14.6	11.4	59	.7
1928	15	10.8	56	.8
1929	15.6	12.5	56	.7
1930	14.8	11.1	40	.9
1931	15.7	12.5	51.9	.5
1932	16.1	10.7	36	.8
1933	15.6	11.1	50	.8
1934	14.3	10.5	53	.5
1935	15.0	11.4	43	.9
1936	14.4	10.9	38	.7
1937	15.4	11.6	53	.6

### Causes of, and Ages at, Death.

The Table on Page 63 shews that 237 deaths were due to Heart Disease (many of these were persons over 65), 97 to Cancer and Malignant Disease, 48 to Tuberculosis, 35 to Pneumonia, 40 to Cerebral Hæmorrhage, 16 to Bronchitis and 26 to violence.

Thirty-two infants died from congenital debility, prematurity and malformations.

Of the total deaths, 48.7 per cent. occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

### Cancer and Malignant Disease.

Deaths numbered 97 of which 46 occurred in males and 51 in females. Cancer was therefore responsible for 12.6 per cent. of the total deaths ; the death rate was 1.4 per 1,000 of the population.

Year.				Death Rate.	Percentage of Total Deaths.
1923	...	...	...	1.1	10.8
1924	...	...	...	1.2	11.1
1925	...	...	...	1.2	12.1
1926	...	...	...	1.2	11
1927	...	...	...	1.5	13
1928	...	...	...	1.6	14
1929	...	...	...	1.4	11
1930	...	...	...	1.7	15.9
1931	...	...	...	1.6	13
1932	...	...	...	1.1	10.5
1933	...	...	...	1.6	15.7
1934	...	...	...	1.4	13.3
1935	...	...	...	1.9	16.6
1936	...	...	...	1.3	12.7
1937	...	...	...	1.4	12.6



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL. The Gillingham Nursing Association has four nurses working in the town. The Association is financed by contributions from patients, from charity funds and local societies. The Council has an arrangement for the provision of nursing assistance to necessitous persons suffering from puerperal fever.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Cases of measles, whooping cough, epidemic diarrhoea and ophthalmia neonatorum are visited by the Health Visitors, who administer treatment in the last-named condition if requested to do so by the private practitioner in attendance.

There are no official arrangements for the provision of nursing assistance in cases of measles and whooping cough.

### Midwives.

The number of registered midwives at 31st December was 16.

The Council does not employ or subsidise midwives, but midwives' fees were paid in necessitous cases up to the time when the municipal midwives scheme was inaugurated.

### Health Clinics and Treatment Centres.

#### SCHOOL CLINICS.

Balmoral Gardens. Daily, 9 a.m.

Health Centre, Holding Street, Rainham. Monday and Wednesday, 9.30 a.m. Friday, 2.30 p.m.

#### DENTAL CLINICS (SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPT.).

Balmoral Gardens. Daily, by appointment only.

Health Centre, Rainham, Friday afternoon, by appointment only.

#### DENTAL CLINIC (MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE DEPT.).

Balmoral Gardens. Friday afternoon.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Balmoral Gardens, Victoria Bridge. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 2 p.m.

Health Centre, Holding Street, Rainham. Tuesday, 2 p.m.

### TODDLERS' CLINIC.

Balmoral Gardens, Victoria Bridge. Saturday morning, by appointment.

### BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC.

Balmoral Gardens Centre. First Wednesday each month, 9.30 a.m.

### CLINIC FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Balmoral Gardens Centre. Friday, 9.30 a.m.

Health Centre, Holding Street, Rainham. Tuesday, 2 p.m.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

Balmoral Gardens Centre. Tuesday, 9.30 a.m.

Health Centre, Rainham. Monday (Fortnightly), 9.30 a.m.

### TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

228 Nelson Road. Tuesday, 9.30 to 10.30 a.m. Friday, 2 to 3 p.m. ; 4 to 5 p.m.

### VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

36 New Road, Rochester. Tuesday, 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

## Hospitals.

1. General Hospital (St. Bartholomew's, Rochester), with 126 beds, 14 of which are reserved for paying patients.

2. County Hospital, Chatham with 468 beds. This includes 16 maternity, 26 tuberculous, 29 children, 8 infectious and 57 mental beds.

3. Royal Naval and Royal Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Barnsole Road, Gillingham. 28 beds. The Local Authority does not make any grant towards the expenses of the Home.

4. Keycol Infectious Hospital, near Sittingbourne. Cases of infectious disease occurring in the Borough, admitted by agreement.

5. Smallpox Hospital, Wigmore, Gillingham. 16 beds—provided by the Corporation.

6. A few beds for children are available at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, and at the County Hospital, Chatham.

7. Tuberculosis beds are available at various institutions throughout the County.

## Institutional Treatment for Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

This is available at :—

1. County Hospital Chatham.
2. The Diocesan Home, “ St. Lawrence,” Borstal Road, Rochester.
3. Salvation Army Rescue Home, Chatham.

## Ambulance Facilities.

1. For infectious cases.

The Corporation provides a Morris Ambulance.

2. For non-infectious and accident cases.

An 18 H.P. Talbot is provided by the Corporation. There are also two St. John's Brigade Ambulances in the district.

## Laboratory Work.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Kent County Council Laboratory, Maidstone, and analyses of water, etc., by the County Analyst, Maidstone.

The bacteriological work carried out during the year was as follows :—

					Percentage	
Swabs for B. Diphtheria :					No.	Positive
From School Clinics	...	...	...	...	71	8.5
From Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	191	19.9
Sputa for Tubercle Bacillus :						
From Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	...	151	35.7
From Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	257	7.8
Hairs for Ringworm Parasite :						
From School Clinics	...	...	...	...	5	80.0
Swabs for Streptococci	...	...	...	...	24	66.6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	8	62.5

Reports on bacteriological examinations of milk and chemical analyses of food are given in the “ Food Section ” of the Report.

## Local Acts and Adoptive Acts.

See previous reports.

707

## SCHEDULE OF BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS MADE BY THE COUNCIL.

SUBJECT		ACT UNDER WHICH MADE	DATE
Advertisement Hoardings, for the regulation of	Byelaws	Advertisements Regulation Act, 1907	11th Mar., 1937
Ashpits in connection with Buildings	ditto	Public Health Act, 1875	18th Feb., 1915
Buildings with respect to the alteration of .. ..	ditto	Gillingham Corporation Act 1931, Section 48	2nd June, 1936
Employment of Children .. ..	ditto	Children and Young Persons Act 1933, Part II.	16th July, 1934
Good Rule and Government of Borough	ditto	Local Government Act, 1933, Sec., 249, and the Corporation Act, 1931, Section 123	31st July, 1934
Fruit Tree Pests (Kent) Order of 1935 Regulation		Destructive Insects and Pests Acts, 1877 to 1927	25th Jan., 1935
Hackney Carriages .. ..	Bye-laws	Public Health Act, 1875	2nd Dec., 1919
Houses Let in Lodgings .. ..	ditto	ditto	4th Dec., 1923
Housing—for securing improvement of Housing conditions .. ..	ditto	Housing Act, 1935, Sec. 68	7th Jan., 1936
House Refuse, Removal of .. ..	ditto	Public Health Act, 1875	18th Feb., 1915
New Streets and Buildings .. ..	ditto	ditto	4th Jan., 1927
Nuisances, Prevention of .. ..	ditto	Local Government Act, 1933, Sec. 249; and Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, Sec. 123	1st Oct., 1934
Nuisances, Prevention of .. ..	ditto	Public Health Act, 1875	1st Jan., 1936
Nursing Homes .. ..	ditto	Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927	9th Nov., 1929
Offensive Trades .. ..	ditto	Public Health Act, 1875	1st Jan., 1936
Parks, etc. :—			
Gillingham Park .. ..	ditto	Public Health Act, 1875	1st Mar., 1935
Rainham Recreation Ground .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto
Vinall Park .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto
The Strand .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto
Woodlands Recreation Ground .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto
Black Lion Fields (Children's Playground) .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto
Rainham Housing Site (Children's Playground) .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto
Pleasure Boats and Vessels .. ..	ditto	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907	2nd June, 1936
Riding of Bicycles, etc., on Footpaths	ditto	Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931	7th Jan., 1936
School Attendance .. ..	ditto	Education Act, 1921, Part IV.	21st Feb., 1934
Sheep, Dipping of .. ..	Regulation	Diseases of Animals Act, 1894-1927	24th July, 1935
Slaughterhouses .. ..	Byelaws	Public Health Act, 1875	1st July, 1919
Street Trading .. ..	Regulations	Town Police Clauses Act 1847—Sec. 21	6th Sept., 1932
*Speed Limit (Built-up Areas) .. ..	Order	Road Traffic Act, 1934	5th Mar., 1935
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures used for human habitation	Bye-laws	The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885	1st Nov., 1935
Traffic Regulation Order, 1934 .. ..	Order	Road Traffic Act, 1930	9th Nov., 1935
(Wood Street—One-way Traffic)			

\* Amended by Order of the Minister of Transport dated 2nd January, 1936, as to Watling Street (A.2).

Further amended by Order dated 2nd June, 1936, as to Watling Street Service Roads.

Further amended by Order of the Minister of Transport, dated 30th January, 1937, re-imposing speed limit on Watling Street between Twydall Lane and Berengrave Lane.



## Health Propaganda.

A national campaign to encourage the wider use of the health services was begun in the autumn. It was directed from the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education in co-operation with the Central Council for Health Education, the principal cost being borne by the Government.

The campaign in October was preliminary in character, its object being to create public interest during the following months. In November and December special attention was paid to the Maternity and Child Welfare Services, in January, 1938, to School Health Services, and in February and March to Social Hygiene and Tuberculosis services.

Posters were displayed throughout the town and thousands of leaflets and publications distributed at the Municipal Buildings, Child Welfare Centres and School Clinics and at the homes of the people by the staff of the department.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifications of infectious disease numbered 323 (183).

There were 211 cases of scarlet fever and 42 of diphtheria.

### Smallpox.

No cases were notified.

### Vaccination.

The percentage of infants known to be successfully vaccinated was 51. The percentage of statutory declarations was 40.

I am indebted to the Vaccination Officer for the following figures :

1.	Number of cases on Birth Lists received during 1937, but actually registered between 1st December, 1936 and 30th November, 1937	...	1,242
2.	Number of Vaccination Certificates received between 1st January, 1937 and 31st December, 1937	... ..	638
3.	Number of Statutory Declarations received between 1st January, 1937 and 31st December, 1937	... ..	494
4.	Number of Postponement Certificates received between 1st January, 1937 and 31st December, 1937 :—		
	(a) Health of Child	... ..	25
	(b) Condition of house or prevalence of Infectious Disease in District	... ..	—
5.	Number of Certificates of Insusceptibility received between 1st January, 1937, and 31st December, 1937	... ..	4
6.	Number of cases removed from District	... ..	77



7. Number of cases not traced	...	...	...	21
Percentage of infants successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	51
Percentage of Statutory Declarations	...	...	...	40

### Scarlet Fever.

Notifications numbered 211 (99) equal to an attack rate of 3.0 per 1,000 of the population. This is the highest incidence since 1929.

Number of houses in which

One case occurred	...	...	...	...	...	167
Two cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	15
Three cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	5
Four cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	1
Five cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of "return cases"	...	...	...	...	...	12

The "return cases," with one exception, were in connection with patients treated in hospital. Patients not acutely ill are not removed to hospital if home isolation is possible.

Table showing notifications, deaths, etc., from Scarlet Fever during 1918-1937 :—

Periods	Population	Number Notified	Deaths Registered	Treated in Hospital	Percentage Removed to Hospital	Attack Rate per 1,000 of population	Mortality per 1,000
1918-27	—	126	—	—	68	2.1	.015
1928	48,140*	303	2	106	35	6.2	.04
† 1929	55,050*	239	1	143	59	4.3	.01
1930	56,670*	172	1	93	54	3.1	.01
1931	50,700*	101	3	64	64	1.9	.05
1932	62,050	146	1	88	60	2.4	.02
1933	60,830	194	2	115	59	3.2	.03
1934	61,930	132	1	82	62	2.1	.01
1935	62,490	92	1	47	50	1.2	.01
1936	64,790	99	—	54	56	1.5	.00
1937	69,320	211	1	122	58	3.0	.01

† Borough extended April, 1929.

\* Excluding non-civilians.

Diphtheria.

42 cases were notified representing an attack rate of 0.01 per 1,000 of the population.

One case terminated fatally.

Number of houses in which

One case occurred	...	...	...	...	...	30
Two cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	2
Three cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	1
Four cases occurred	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Return cases "	...	...	...	...	...	2

Anti-toxin is available at the Health Department during office hours. When the office is closed it may be obtained at 39 and 41 Green Street.

Units of serum issued numbered 568,000.

Table showing notifications, cases isolated, number of deaths, etc., from Diphtheria during 1918-1937 :—

Period	Population	Number Notified	Deaths Registered	Treated in Hospital	Percentage Removed to Hospital	Attack Rate per 1,000 of population	Mortality per 1,000 of population
1918-27	—	78	—	—	84	1.24	.1
1928	48,140*	213	10	141	66	4.4	.21
† 1929	55,050*	179	17	143	64.8	3.2	.17
1930	56,670*	42	1	32	76	.76	.01
1931	50,700*	19	1	17	89	.37	.02
1932	62,050	8	—	8	100	.13	—
1933	60,830	17	1	16	94	.28	.02
1934	61,930	52	4	43	82	.83	.06
1935	62,490	27	5	23	85	.43	.08
1936	64,790	17	2	17	100	.26	.03
1937	69,320	42	1	32	78	.60	.01

\* Excluding non-civilians.

† Borough extended April, 1929.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Facilities provided since April, 1935, have proved so popular that it is difficult to keep pace with the number of applicants.

The only prophylactic used is T.A.F. administered in 3 doses at fortnightly intervals. The first 2 doses are 1 c.c. and the 3rd is 1.5 c.c.

The following Table summarises the work of the Clinic.

# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS

Clinic	Year	Number of 1st Schick Tests	Results		Number of Inoculations			Total Attendances
			Pos.	Neg.	1st	2nd	3rd	
Rainham	1935*	—	—	—	112	109	100	321
	1936	4	1	3	196	187	187	578
	1937	2	—	2	163	164	149	482
	TOTAL	6	1	5	471	460	436	1,381
Gillingham	1935*	5	3	2	339	310	275	1,016
	1936	27	11	11	472	461	471	1,457
	1937	25	18	9	551	543	549	1,707
	TOTAL	57	32	22	1362	1314	1295	4,180

\* Part of the year. The scheme for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria was inaugurated in April, 1935

## SUMMARY OF COMPLETED CASES

YEAR	Under 5 years of age			5—12 years of age			Over 12 years of age			GRAND TOTAL
	Gillingham	Rainham	Total	Gillingham	Rainham	Total	Gillingham	Rainham	Total	
1935 ...	72	28	100	158	73	231	39	5	44	375
1936 ...	140	47	187	301	130	431	36	4	40	658
1937 ...	168	49	217	365	99	464	16	1	17	698
TOTALS	380	124	504	824	302	1126	91	10	101	1731

During 1937, the number of children who failed to attend for a complete course of injections was 7

During the month of November one child who had completed her immunisation fourteen months previously was notified to be suffering from diphtheria. There was slight exudate on the tonsils, and the swab proved positive. The case, however, was very mild, and recovery uneventful.

### **Enteric Fever.**

Two cases were notified, one in April and one in July. The former was a woman aged 20 who may have been infected as the result of immersion in the river Thames near Deptford. The second case, a girl aged 14, terminated fatally; the source of infection was not traced.

Both were infected by the bacillus paratyphosus B.

### **Malaria and Dysentery.**

None notified.

### **Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

None notified.

### **Acute Poliomyelitis.**

None notified.

### **Pneumonia.**

Notifications numbered 50 as compared with 40 in the previous year :—

Influenzal Pneumonia...	...	...	...	...	9
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	41

### **Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox.**

These diseases are not notifiable, but information is obtained by the Health Visitors.

The following cases under five years were found :—

Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	85
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	43
Mumps ...	...	...	...	...	...	12

No action was taken in regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuating the attack. The Corporation does not provide institutional accommodation for children suffering from whooping cough or measles.



## HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Under an arrangement with the Sittingbourne and Milton Joint Hospital Board, patients suffering from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever and Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis are admitted to Keycol Hospital.

Smallpox cases are admitted to the Corporation's Smallpox Hospital, Wigmore.

Admissions to Keycol Hospital numbered 155 compared with 72 in the previous year.

The following Table gives details :—

Keycol Hill Hospital, Sittingbourne	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.
Number of patients admitted...	122	32	1
Deaths ... ..	1	—	—
Discharged ... ..	102	18	1
In Hospital on the 31st Dec., 1937 ... ..	20	14	—
Average number of days per patient in Hospital ...	30	37	77

### Disinfections.

Disinfection of rooms is carried out in connection with Tuberculosis, Enteric Fever and Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. After Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, householders are advised to give rooms a "spring-cleaning." Disinfectants are not recommended.

Houses disinfected by formalin-spraying in connection with tuberculous cases numbered 206.

The following articles were removed for disinfection in the steam disinfecter or formalin chamber :—

Mattresses ... ..	520
Palliasses ... ..	95
Pillows ... ..	1,060
Cushions ... ..	402
Bolsters ... ..	356
Hearthrugs ... ..	321
Clothing ... ..	2,790
Carpets ... ..	20
Books ... ..	709
Eiderdowns ... ..	609
Sundries ... ..	220
TOTAL ... ..	7,102



## Tuberculosis.

Notifications of new cases numbered 48 compared with 46 in the previous year. The average figure for the last 10 years was 63.

The figures for the years 1925-1937 were as follows :—

			Pulmonary	Rate per 1,000 of Population	Non- Pulmonary	Rate per 1,000 of Population
1925	...	...	60	1.05	20	0.35
1926	...	...	75	1.27	24	0.42
1927	...	...	58	1.0	18	0.31
1928	...	...	54	0.94	19	0.33
*1929	...	...	57	0.88	16	0.22
1930	...	...	72	1.0	15	0.22
1931	...	...	57	0.9	22	0.36
1932	...	...	82	1.3	23	0.37
1933	...	...	72	1.18	14	0.23
1934	...	...	61	0.9	19	0.30
1935	...	...	72	1.15	15	0.24
1936	...	...	46	0.7	13	0.20
1937	...	...	48	0.7	19	0.27

\* Borough boundaries extended.

Twelve cases were un-notified before death, and 9 at a late stage of the disease.

Period elapsing between notification and death	Cases
One to seven days	1
One to four weeks	3
One to three months	5

## PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Under these regulations the Medical Officer of Health is required to keep an up-to-date register of all notified cases. For this purpose the register is revised quarterly.

	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Total
Number on register at 1st January,			
1937	174	85	259
Number on register at 31st Decem- ber, 1937	184	91	275

Table compiled from Local Records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases and deaths during 1937:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	2	3	2	—	1	—
5—15 „	—	1	3	3	—	1	—	—
15—25 „	8	5	—	1	1	3	—	—
25—35 „	6	4	1	4	8	3	1	2
35—45 „	13	3	—	—	6	1	—	1
45—55 „	3	1	—	1	3	2	—	3
55—65 „	2	—	—	1	7	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Total ...	33	15	6	13	29	11	2	6
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <span>{ 48 }</span> <span>{ 19 }</span> <span>{ 40 }</span> <span>{ 8 }</span> </div>								

### Tuberculosis Death Rate.

According to the Registrar-General, total deaths numbered 48 compared with 52 in the previous year.

The following Table is inserted for purposes of comparison:—

Year	Deaths			Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1916	73	63	10	1.5	1.3	.2
1917	72	53	19	1.5	1.1	.4
1918	61	54	7	1.25	1.1	.15
1919	59	48	11	1.2	1.0	.2
1920	54	40	14	1.12	.83	.29
1921	61	50	11	1.12	.92	.2
1922	75	66	9	1.5	1.3	.2
1923	59	42	17	1.2	.8	.4
1924	47	35	12	.9	.7	.2
1925	36	31	5	.7	.6	.1
1926	60	50	10	1.2	1.0	.2
1927	41	38	3	.8	.7	.1
1928	46	40	6	.9	.8	.1
1929	46	39	7	.8	.7	.1
1930	57	52	5	1.0	.9	.08
1931	41	27	14	.8	.5	.27
1932	54	49	5	.87	.8	.08
1933	59	49	10	.96	.8	.16
1934	39	34	5	.62	.5	.08
1935	62	56	6	.99	.89	.09
1936	52	44	8	.80	.68	.12
1937	48	40	8	.70	.58	.12

## Report of Tuberculosis Officer (Dr. Chas. Roper).

Dr. Roper was good enough to furnish the following information :—

PARTICULARS of patients from the Gillingham Area dealt with at the County Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year ended December 31st, 1937.

## New Cases.

	Pulmonary				Non Pulmonary				Totals				
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Tuberculous	32	13	—	—	1	4	8	2	33	17	8	2	60
Non-Tub.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	36	23	3	130
Obs. Dec '37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	4	3	1	16
Total new Cases	32	13	—	—	1	4	8	2	81	57	34	34	206

TOTAL ATTENDANCES—961

INSTITUTIONS to which patients were sent during 1937 :—

Lenham	...	...	...	...	...	...	I4
Keycol Hill		...	...	...	...	...	5
Eversfield	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grosvenor		...	...	...	...	...	I
Preston Hall	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
County Hospital, Chatham			...	...	...	...	I7
Benenden	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Victoria Home, Margate			...	...	...	...	I
Bramshott	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tait Convalescent Home			...	...	...	...	I
St. Bartholomew's, Rochester	...		...	...	...	...	I
Old Manor House		...	...	...	...	...	I
				TOTAL	...	...	50

## Venereal Diseases.

I am indebted to Dr. Nicol, medical officer in charge of the V.D. County Council Clinic in Rochester, for the subjoined figures.

Patients from all areas served numbered 292.

### NEW PATIENTS—GILLINGHAM :—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	17
Soft Chancre	...	...	...	...	...	—
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	37
Non-Venereal	...	...	...	...	...	28
						—
			TOTAL	...	...	82 (82)
						—

Total Attendances were 3,137.

## PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A comprehensive scheme embraces the following facilities :—

1. Children up to 5 years visited by health visitors.
2. Two centres for infant consultations.
3. Clinic for Toddlers.
4. Two antenatal and post-natal clinics.
5. Ante- and post-natal examinations by private practitioners.
6. Maternity beds at County Hospital and Naval Maternity Home.
7. Dental clinic for expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age.
8. Provision of dried milk free or at cost price to expectant and nursing mothers and to infants.
9. Home treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum by health visitors.
10. Institutional treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum at the County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.
11. Treatment of children under 5 years suffering from squint, conjunctivitis, enlarged tonsils and crippling defects.
12. Home visiting of boarded out children.



13. Home nursing of necessitous persons suffering from puerperal fever.
14. Supervision of midwives under the Midwives Acts.
15. Provision of sterilised maternity outfits.
16. Provision of institutional treatment for cases of puerperal fever.
17. Registration and inspection of maternity homes under the Public Health Act, 1936.

### Public Health Act, 1936.

Births require to be notified to the Local Authority within 36 hours. The number received was 1,274 which represents 99 per cent. of those registered.

95 per cent. were notified by midwives, the remainder by doctors or parents. The figure 1,274, includes births taking place in the Borough, but whose usual residence is elsewhere. After correction for inward and outward transfers the number properly belonging to the Borough is 1,064 compared with 932 in the previous year.

Of the total births notified (viz., 1,274), 53 per cent. (53) took place in institutions.

Twin births numbered 12.

The following Table shows births registered, notified, etc., during the years 1924-1937 :—

		Births Registered Locally	Births Notified	No. of Live Births corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers
1924	...	1,014	983 (97%)	942
1925	...	1,059	1,020 (96%)	951
1926	...	1,053	1,015 (96%)	938
1927	...	1,013	997 (98%)	844
1928	...	1,027	1,023 (99%)	860
*1929	...	1,088	1,048 (96%)	1,007
1930	...	1,176	1,143 (97%)	976
1931	...	1,119	1,099 (98%)	962
1932	...	1,191	1,172 (98%)	1,000
1933	...	1,157	1,132 (98%)	954
1934	...	1,067	1,061 (99%)	883
1935	...	1,156	1,149 (99%)	940
1936	...	1,148	1,125 (98%)	932
1937	...	1,286	1,274 (99%)	1,064

\* Borough extended



## Home Visiting.

The town is divided into six areas, each with its own health visitor who is responsible for visits under the Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Medical Services.

Home visits under the former numbered 11,961.

The following is a summary of home visits :—

	1937	1936	1935	1934
Visits to expectant mothers ...	227	229	241	232
First visits to living infants ...	1,000	887	927	871
Re-visits under 1 year ...	3,055	2,415	2,546	2,128
Visits 1 to 5 years ...	6,366	4,769	5,386	4,658
Visits <i>re</i> Milk Order ...	20	20	26	32
Visits <i>re</i> Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	1	—	4
Visits <i>re</i> Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—
Visits <i>re</i> Diarrhoea ...	—	—	3	1
Visits <i>re</i> Measles ...	4	80	5	137
Visits <i>re</i> Mumps ...	12	3	1	—
Visits <i>re</i> Whooping Cough ...	85	95	24	58
Visits <i>re</i> Chicken Pox ...	43	11	40	25
Visits <i>re</i> Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	6	24	31	37
Visits <i>re</i> Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	2	4	15	15
Visits <i>re</i> Boarded-Out Children...	81	94	104	113
Other Visits ...	1,063	667	894	694
TOTALS ...	11,961	9,299	10,143	9,005

## Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids.

Children under 5 years are examined at the child welfare centres and if requiring operation referred to a private doctor or to hospital. The number referred was 6. Those sent to St. Bart's. Hospital, Rochester are provided with a subscriber's letter.

## Ophthalmic Treatment.

Thirty-four children under 5 years suffering from conjunctivitis received treatment at the school clinics. Attendances numbered 223.

Thirty-one children affected with squint were examined at the ophthalmic clinic by Dr. Dunlop, and glasses prescribed for 28. Attendances numbered 59.

## Minor Ailments.

Twenty-nine children suffering from ear discharge or skin affections made 165 attendances at the school clinics.

## Dental Defects.

A fortnightly clinic for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age was established in April, 1936, Mr. Bloor being appointed part-time dental Surgeon. From April, 1937, it was held weekly on account of the large numbers applying for treatment.

The following is a summary of the work during the year :—

No. of Sessions...	...	...	...	...	44
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

### INFANTS.

No. of individual children attended	...	...	107
Total attendances	...	...	265
Temporary teeth extracted	...	...	426
Temporary teeth filled	...	...	37
Other operations	...	...	16
No. of anaesthetics	...	...	198
Payments by parents	...	...	£9 3s.

### MOTHERS.

Number of individual mothers attended	...	99 (65E 34N)
Total attendances	...	279
Permanent teeth extracted	...	930
Permanent teeth filled	...	29
Other operations	...	10
Number of anaesthetics	...	182
Payments by patients	...	£10 9s. 9d.

Dentures were supplied to expectant and nursing mothers as follows :—

Total cost	...	£93 16s. 0d.
Payments by patients	...	£15 18s. 6d.
Cost to Corporation	...	£77 17s. 6d.

Patients are required to contribute in accordance with an income scale approved by the Corporation.

## Cripples.

The usual conditions requiring treatment are club foot, infantile paralysis, flat foot and deformities caused by rickets. Three children were referred to St. Bart's. Hospital, Rochester, for treatment. Others attend the London Orthopædic Hospital.

## Child Welfare Centres.

The Balmoral Gardens Centre is open each afternoon, Monday to Thursday inclusive and the Rainham Centre every Tuesday at 2 p.m. Total attendances numbered 20,163 of which 4,170 were in respect of children aged 1 to 5 years.

**Attendances.**

				Balmoral Gardens	Rainham Centre
1926	...	...	...	7,263	—
1927	...	...	...	8,600	—
1928	...	...	...	9,504	—
1929	...	...	...	10,759	—
1930	...	...	...	13,624	1,464
1931	...	...	...	13,304	1,816
1932	...	...	...	14,287	1,813
1933	...	...	...	14,651	2,066
1934	...	...	...	13,297	2,448
1935	...	...	...	15,503	2,780
1936	...	...	...	15,758	2,557
1937	...	...	...	17,096	3,067

The following Table gives details of each Centre during the year. It indicates that a high proportion of notified live births attended for consultation, viz., 73.4 per cent.

	Hippodrome Field Centre	Rainham Centre
Children under 1 year on register for first time	657	124
Children 1 to 5 years on register for first time	194	42
Average attendance per session ... ..	87	60
Total children on register, December, 1937 ...	1,715	354
Children referred for treatment to hospital or private doctor ... ..	136	4
Umbilical Hernia strapped ... ..	112	8

**Clinic for Children aged 1-5 years.**

The object of this clinic is to carry out routine medical inspections as near as possible to the second, third and fourth birthdays. The following are details of attendances, etc., from April to December, 1937 :—

Number of children examined—

at ages 2-3 years	...	...	...	66
3-4 years	...	...	...	64
4-5 years	...	...	...	52
TOTAL	...	...	...	— 182

Number referred for treatment	...	...	42
Number treated	...	...	35
Number referred for observation	...	...	4

Defect.	Referred for Treatment.				Trtd.	Ref. for Obsvatn.
	Priv. Doct'r	Hosp.	Eye Clinic.	Dental Clinic.		
Nutrition ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—
Skin ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—
Muscle Tone ... ..	—	—	—	—	3	—
Deformities ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
Teeth ... ..	—	—	—	29	1	—
Nose and Throat ...	—	9	—	—	4	—
Glands—Tonsillar ...	—	—	—	—	3	—
Eyes ... ..	—	—	3	—	—	—
Lungs ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	1
Appetite and Digestion	—	—	—	—	13	—
Nocturnal Eneuresis ...	—	—	—	—	2	1
“ Nervous ” Condition ...	—	—	—	—	3	—
Other Conditions (including rheumatism)	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS ... ..		10	3	29	35	4

The following report has been submitted by Dr. Dunlop, who is the Medical Officer in attendance :—

“ The Toddlers Clinic, started in April, 1937, has met with a fair measure of success. The average attendance has not reached the standard obtained at other clinics, where individual children are seen by appointment only. During the latter months of the year the attendance has gradually increased.

“ The general standard of the children examined has been high. There is very little evidence of rachitis, anæmia or malnutrition, even in the homes where the economic conditions make it practically certain the diet is not well-balanced. I expected to find these conditions much more prevalent in the 1–5 age period. The clothing and general cleanliness were also of a high standard.

“ The most common defects found were dental caries, slight digestive disturbances and sleep disorders. Dental caries and digestive disturbances I attribute to the same causes, faulty dieting, (i.e. excessive intake of starchy foods), and lack of regularity in meals, habits and rest. I find that many mothers are of the opinion a “ toddler ” should be fed when feeling hungry, even though they have been particular about regularity during infancy. It is also difficult to convince them that rest and sleep are not synonymous terms, and that regular rest is necessary for the healthy development of the child.



“ Enlarged tonsils and adenoids were not so marked as in the first school age period, probably due to the fact that the child of school age is more subject to infections of the upper respiratory tract, aggravating an existing simple hypertrophy.

“ The general well-being of the children who have attended the Toddlers Clinic has been, on the whole, very satisfactory.”

### **Supply of Milk to Necessitous Mothers and Children.**

Dried milk is provided free in necessitous cases to expectant and nursing mothers and to infants under one year.

The approximate cost for the year ending 31st December, was £137, equal to an expenditure of 0.47d. per head of the population.

### **Methods of Feeding (under 9 months).**

For many years records have been kept of methods of feeding at the first home visit and at the time of the first visit to an infant consultation clinic.

At the former 84.1 per cent. were breast-fed, but at the latter 26.6 per cent. were “ on the bottle.”

#### **I. FIRST HOME VISITS. (Average age 14 days).**

		Percentage Breast-fed	Percentage Breast + Bottle	Percentage on Bottle only
1925	...	86.6	4.7	8.9
1926	...	83.8	9.0	7.2
1927	...	79.0	7.8	13.2
1928	...	85.5	7.5	7.0
1929	...	83.6	5.0	11.4
1930	...	83.5	7.2	9.2
1931	...	82.6	6.2	11.2
1932	...	83.6	5.5	10.9
1933	...	79.9	6.1	14.0
1934	...	83.2	6.7	10.1
1935	...	83.5	4.9	11.6
1936	...	83.6	7.2	9.2
1937	...	84.1	5.1	10.8



2. AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRE (First Visit). (Average age 2 months (approx.).

		Percentage Breast-fed	Percentage Breast + Bottle	Percentage on Bottle only
1925	...	57.0	11.2	31.7
1926	...	66.0	8.7	25.2
1927	...	61.0	10.6	28.5
1928	...	62.0	12.0	25.0
1929	...	67.4	10.7	21.9
1930	...	62.4	12.1	25.5
1931	...	66.1	8.3	25.6
1932	...	66.6	9.0	24.4
1933	...	66.1	6.8	27.1
1934	...	66.1	7.5	26.4
1935	...	63.8	5.8	30.4
1936	...	66.0	7.6	26.4
1937	...	67.5	5.9	26.6

### Clinics for Expectant Mothers.

A special clinic is held every Friday morning at the Balmoral Gardens Centre and on Tuesday afternoons expectant mothers attend the Rainham Centre during the time the Infant Consultation Clinic is conducted.

The number of expectant mothers attending for the first time was 399 compared with 342 in the previous year.

### Summary.

				Balmoral Gardens Centre	Rainham Centre
Expectant mothers	...	...	...	347	52
Attendances by expectant mothers	...	...	...	881	153
Expectant mothers referred for treatment to private practitioners or hospital	...	...	...	18	3
Postnatal cases	...	...	...	15	6
Attendances by postnatal cases	...	...	...	44	23
Postnatal cases referred for treatment	...	...	...	3	2
Found not pregnant	...	...	...	17	7
Cases referred to Maternity Homes	...	...	...	49	6
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	18	4

The attendances, etc., were as follows :—

	Hippodrome Field Centre	Rainham Centre	Total 1937	Total 1936	Total 1935	Total 1934
New cases (post-natal included)	362	58	420	358	316	309
Attendances ...	925	176	1,101	1,241	1,108	1,011

## **Ante-natal and Post-Natal Examinations by Private Practitioners.**

The following Report was approved by the Corporation, and the scheme came into force on 1st July, 1937.

“ With the object of reducing maternal mortality and morbidity midwives are required to see their patients during pregnancy as often as is necessary and to keep notes of their ante-natal observations. The Central Midwives Board also recommends a medical examination at or about the sixteenth week and about the thirty-second week of pregnancy and also a post-natal examination.

“ Dr. Dunlop conducts ante-natal clinics weekly, and that held at the Balmoral Gardens Centre is already congested. At present many expectant mothers do not attend but when the new scheme of Municipal Midwives is established the numbers will increase greatly (probably double) as each midwife on the staff will be instructed that medical examinations are to be arranged for in all cases unless the patient refuses. As Dr. Dunlop obviously will be unable to cope with such an increase an arrangement might be made with the medical practitioners of the town to examine ante-, and post-natally patients booked by municipal midwives. The patient would choose her own doctor, the midwife arrange with the doctor for the examination and be present at the time.

“ This scheme has the advantage that the doctor who attends the patient during pregnancy would also attend the patient during the confinement if any complications arose.

“ The present ante-natal clinics would be continued as some women prefer examination by the clinic doctor. The clinics would also deal with cases sent by the general practitioners for second opinions.

“ Recommended :—

- (1) That an agreement be made with the medical practitioners in the town to carry out at least two ante-natal and one post-natal examinations in each case at the request of the municipal midwife.
- (2) That records of all examinations be kept by the medical practitioner on prescribed forms and forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.
- (3) That the Corporation pays the medical practitioners five shillings for each examination.

- (4) That the scheme come into operation from the date when the Municipal Midwives commence duty (July, 1937).
- (5) That the scheme be available for expectant and nursing mothers who have not made arrangements privately, who are residents of Gillingham, and not insured under the National Health Insurance Act."

The scheme is working well and no difficulties have been encountered.

The number of patients who received attention from 1st July to 31st December was 86.

The following is a summary of the examinations made :—

Number of first Ante-Natal examinations	...	76
Number of second Ante-Natal examinations	...	36
Number of Post-Natal examinations	... ..	15
		<hr/>
TOTAL	...	127
		<hr/>

### Maternity and Nursing Homes.

Three homes were on the register at the end of the year under the Public Health Act, 1936, with a total accommodation of 28 beds. One is registered for maternity cases only. One maternity home closed down during the year.

### Institutional Midwifery.

Thirty-three civilian mothers were admitted to the Naval Maternity Home at fees varying between 30s. and 94s. 6d. per week in accordance with income. In addition, one necessitous case was paid for by the Corporation at a cost of £2 2s. 0d. per week less maternity benefit.

Maternity beds are also available at the County Hospital; 19 mothers were sent there.

### Supervision of Midwives.

The Corporation is the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts, 1902–1926. 21 midwives gave notice of their intention to practice during the year.

Dr. Dunlop, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health acts as Inspector of Midwives.



## Municipal Midwives.

Under the Midwives Act, 1936, (Section 1) it is the duty of every local supervising authority to secure, whether by making arrangements with voluntary organisations or by itself employing such midwives, that the number of certified midwives so employed who are available for attendance on women in their own homes, is adequate for the needs of the area.

Under the Act the proposals of the authority were required to become effective by the 31st July, 1937. The Corporation resolved as follows and the scheme came into force on the 1st July :—

- (1) That in view of the fact that there is no suitable Voluntary Organisation in the district the Corporation employ the midwives as whole-time servants ;
- (2) That five midwives be employed ;
- (3) That the salary for the appointments be £190 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £220 per annum (with an additional two increments of £10 to a maximum of £240 where the midwife is a State Registered Nurse), plus £5 per annum travelling allowance, £10 per annum uniform allowance, and £10 per annum laundry allowance ;
- (4) That in the case of the midwife engaged in the Rainham District a motor car allowance be made and a telephone provided ;
- (5) That twenty-one working days holiday per annum be allowed to each midwife ;
- (6) That all equipment required by the midwives be provided by the Corporation ;
- (7) That the fees to be paid by patients for the services of midwives acting as midwives be 35/- for primiparæ, 30/- for multiparæ, and 20/- for abortions, with the following exception :—

Where the gross family income is 30/- per week or under and there is no maternity benefit available—no charge.

- (8) That the fees to be paid by patients for the services of a maternity nurse be 25/- for primiparæ, 20/- for multiparæ, and 10/- for abortions, except where the gross family income is £3 per week or over, when the charges shall be the same as for the services of a midwife, viz., 35/-, 30/- or 20/-. In these cases the patient will be required to pay the doctor's fee;
- (9) That the charges for maternity nurses (35/-, 30/- or 20/-) be increased when the Committee is of opinion that the patient can afford to pay more.

Only minor difficulties occurred in connection with the scheme and the change over took place remarkably smoothly. It was found necessary to provide each midwife with a telephone and this was arranged accordingly. Their instructions are to book up to a maximum of eight cases per month and to endeavour to persuade all patients to have two ante-natal examinations and one post-natal either by a private practitioner or at one of the clinics.

Mothers have free choice of midwife and book directly without any reference to the Health Department.

Two independent midwives remain in private practice in the district.

During the summer months when the municipal midwives are on leave a temporary midwife will be required.

Three ~~Two~~ midwives surrendered their certificates (one voluntarily) and received compensation in accordance with Section 5 of the Act.

The following return was made to the Ministry of Health :—

	Domicil'y Midwives	Midwives in Inst'ns	Totals
1. Total number of midwives practising at the end of the year in the area of the Local Supervising Authority :—			
(a) Employed by the Local Supervising Authority ... ..	5	—	5
(b) Employed by other Welfare Councils :—			
(i) under arrangements made with the Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act, 1936 ... ..	—	—	—
(ii) Others ... ..	—	—	—
(c) Employed by Voluntary Associations :—			
(i) under arrangements made with the Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act, 1936 ... ..	—	—	—
(ii) Others ... ..	—	7	7
(d) In private practice ... ..	4	—	4
TOTALS ...	9	7	16



	Domicil'y Cases	Cases in Institut'ns	Totals
2. Number of cases in the area of the Local Supervising Authority atten- ded during the year by midwives :—			
(a) Employed by the Council :—			
As Midwives     ...     ...	84	—	84
As Maternity Nurses     ...	29	—	29
(b) Employed by other Welfare Councils :—			
(i) under arrangements made with the Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Section I of the Midwives Act, 1936—			
As Midwives     ...     ...	—	—	—
As Maternity Nurses     ...	—	—	—
(ii) Others—			
As Midwives     ...     ...	—	—	—
As Maternity Nurses     ...	—	—	—
(c) Employed by Voluntary Assoc- iations :—			
(i) under arrangements made with the Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Section I of the Midwives Act, 1936—			
As Midwives     ...     ...	—	—	—
As Maternity Nurses     ...	—	—	—
(ii) Others—			
As Midwives     ...     ...	—	379	379
As Maternity Nurses     ...	—	253	253
(d) In private practice—			
As Midwives     ...     ...	408	20	428
As Maternity Nurses     ...	18	19	37
TOTALS			
As Midwives     ...     ...	492 } 539	399 } 671	891 } 1210
As Maternity Nurses     ...	47 }	272 }	319 }

3. Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (i) of the Midwives Act, 1918, by a midwife :—

(i) engaged in domiciliary practice ... ..	109
(ii) in institutional practice ... ..	135
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>244</b>

4. Number of domiciliary births during the year in the area of the Local Supervising Authority ... .. 603

### Records of Sending for Medical Help.

Under the rules of the Central Midwives Board midwives are required to summon medical help in certain defined emergencies.

During the year it was sought on 246 occasions, of which 216 were for the mother and 30 for the child. The percentage of births in which medical assistance was considered necessary was therefore 22 per cent.

Year	Notifications Received		Total	Percentage of Births in which Medical help was called in
	On behalf of Mother	On behalf of Child		
1931	89	21	110	9·8%
1932	143	26	169	14%
1933	140	38	178	15%
1934	143	30	173	16%
1935	138	27	165	14%
1936	154	31	185	16%
1937	216	30	246	22%

The conditions for which medical help was required are set forth as follows :—

<i>Mothers—</i>	1937
Ruptured perineum ... ..	99
Prolonged labour ... ..	54
Faulty presentations ... ..	6
Haemorrhages ... ..	13
Miscarriage ... ..	5
Albuminuria ... ..	11
Rise of temperature ... ..	1
Miscellaneous ... ..	27
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>216</b>

*Child—*

Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	6
Debility...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	7
TOTAL						30

The following notifications were also received from midwives :—

Source of infection	...	...	...	...	—
Discontinuance of breast feeding			...	...	7
Death of child	...	...	...	...	5
Still-births	...	...	...	...	11
Laying-out dead body		...	...	...	1
					—
			TOTAL	...	24

**Puerperal Pyrexia.**

One case was notified ; the patient was treated at home and recovered.

**Midwives Act, 1918 (Section 14).**

The Ministry prescribes the scale of fees to be paid by Local Supervising Authorities to medical practitioners called in by midwives.

Eighty-nine accounts amounting to a total of £146 15s. 6d. were paid by the Corporation.

In accordance with the Corporation's scale of income £77 9s. od. was due to be paid by patients ; the sum actually received by the end of the year was £56 16s. od.

Whole fee due to be paid by patient	...	...	45
Part fee due to be paid by patient	...	...	14
Whole fee due to be paid by Corporation	...	...	30

**Midwives Fees.**

These were paid by the Corporation in one case where the patient was necessitous.

## Maternal Mortality.

There was only one death associated with pregnancy. The maternal mortality rate was therefore, as in the previous year, below the average for the country.

				Year 1937
England and Wales	...	...	...	3.11
Gillingham	...	...	...	0.91

The following Table shews the maternal mortality rate during the period 1924-1937 :—

Year					Rate per 1,000 births	
1924	...	...	...	...	4.2	Average 3.1 per 1,000 births.
1925	...	...	...	...	3.1	
1926	...	...	...	...	4.2	
1927	...	...	...	...	7.0	
1928	...	...	...	...	2.3	
1929	...	...	...	...	3.9	
1930	...	...	...	...	6.1	
1931	...	...	...	...	2.0	
1932	...	...	...	...	2.1	
1933	...	...	...	...	3.1	
1934	...	...	...	...	1.0	
1935	...	...	...	...	1.0	
1936	...	...	...	...	2.1	
1937	...	...	...	...	0.9	

## Birth Control Clinic.

This is conducted monthly by Dr. Dunlop.

Numbers attending are small as contraceptive advice is not given on account of the economic condition of the family, but is limited to those cases where further pregnancy is prejudicial to health.

Number of sessions	...	...	...	10
New cases	...	...	...	13
Number of attendances	...	...	...	18
Number advised	...	...	...	3

During the period August, 1931, to July, 1936, the number of women advised was 53.

Results are as follows :—

(1) Left district	...	...	...	10
(2) Treatment not applied	...	...	...	5
(3) Unable to carry out instructions	...	...	...	9
(4) Successful	...	...	...	29

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum (Purulent Inflammation of Eyes in the New-born).**

Two notifications were received. One infant was cured, but the other died from "misadventure."

In 10 cases, midwives summoned medical assistance for infants suffering from inflammation of the eyes.

The Corporation has made arrangements for the institutional treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum at the County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.

### **INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.**

The health visitors, who are appointed infant life protection visitors made 81 visits. Conditions as a rule were found satisfactory.

Persons undertaking for reward the nursing and maintenance of a child under the age of 9 years apart from his parents must give notice thereof to the welfare authority not less than 7 days before he receives the child or, if in an emergency, within 24 hours thereafter.

In actual practice seven days notice is never given as, according to the foster-parents, these infants are invariably received in an emergency. The Health Visitors periodically discover boarded-out children with regard to whom notices have not been received but in most cases the foster mothers are genuinely ignorant of the legal requirements.

#### **Summary.**

Number of foster-mothers (December, 1937)	...	...	22
Foster children (December, 1937)...	...	...	27
Visits by nurses	...	...	81
Total number of children removed from the register			
during the year	...	...	9
Returned to parents	...	...	7
Removed to foster-parents inside district	...	...	1
Over age	...	...	1

### **National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.**

The co-operation of the local inspector has been of the greatest value in safeguarding the health of infants and children. His influence over intractable parents is frequently a deciding factor and without his help many cases could not be dealt with satisfactorily. I have no hesitation in stating that this society deserves the full support of the public.



## Infant Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year numbered 56 which represents an infant mortality rate of **53 per 1,000** births compared with 38 per 1,000 in the previous year.

The rate for London was 60 and for England and Wales 58 per 1,000 births.

Year				Rate per 1,000 Births	
				Gillingham	England and Wales
1922	...	...	...	61	—
1923	...	...	...	48.5	69
1924	...	...	...	52	75
1925	...	...	...	51.5	75
1926	...	...	...	51	70
1927	...	...	...	59	69
1928	...	...	...	56	65
1929	...	...	...	56	74
1930	...	...	...	40	60
1931	...	...	...	51.9	66
1932	...	...	...	36	65
1933	...	...	...	50	64
1934	...	...	...	53	67
1935	...	...	...	43	57
1936	...	...	...	38	59
1937	...	...	...	56	58

The following Tables indicate that prematurity was the principal cause of death and that 55 per cent. of the deaths occurred during the first month of life :—

Net Deaths from Stated Causes (*Local Register*) at Various Ages Under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity ... ..	17	1	1	—	19	1	—	—	—	20
Congenital Malformations ... ..	5	1	—	—	6	1	—	1	1	9
Marasmus ... ..	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	4
Other Causes ... ..	2	—	1	1	4	2	5	1	1	13
Totals ... ..	25	2	3	1	31	8	6	5	6	56

## Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Live Births from the Causes Shown.

			Neo-natal Mortality	Mortality from Bronchitis and Pneumonia	Gastro-intesti- nal Diseases
1925	...	...	29.4	9.5	5.2
1926	...	...	27.7	8.5	7.5
1927	...	...	23.7	11.6	5.9
1928	...	...	33.8	11.6	5.9
1929	...	...	25.8	17.8	2.9
1930	...	...	21.5	7.1	3.0
1931	...	...	28	12.4	2.0
1932	...	...	21	6	Nil
1933	...	...	33.5	6.3	4.2
1934	...	...	31.7	6.7	9.0
1935	...	...	31.2	3.2	3.2
1936	...	...	26.8	8.6	2.1
1937	...	...	23.5	1.9	6.5

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The subjoined Table shews the premises on the registers and the number of inspections made. Under a Local Act any premises used for the manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat or other food intended for the purposes of sale, require to be registered.

	On Register 31st Dec.	No. of visits during 1937	No. of Notices	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses ... ..	17	47	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops ...	64	} 308	3	1
Retailers of bottled steril- ised milk ... ..	139			
Cowsheds ... ..	12			
Slaughterhouses ... ..	14	2644	3	3
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	39	88	3	3
Pressed and Preserved Meat Premises ... ..	82	} 157	2	2
Restaurants ... ..	30			

**Milk Supply.**

A register is kept of persons carrying on the trade of cow-keeper or dairyman and of premises used as dairies.

Of those given in the foregoing Table, 10 purveyors have registered premises situated outside the Borough.

**Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.**

The following licences were issued during 1937 :—

*Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk.*

Dealer's licence to retail ... .. 1

*Tuberculin Tested Milk.*

Dealer's licence to retail ... .. 2

Supplementary licence to retail ... .. 1

*Accredited Milk.*

Supplementary licence to retail ... .. 1

*Pasteurised Milk.*

Dealer's licence to retail ... .. 1

Supplementary licence to retail ... .. 1

## MILK SAMPLES.

### Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Four samples were found to satisfy the prescribed tests for cleanliness, i.e., the Methylene Blue Test and the Coliform Test.

### Pasteurised Milk.

The Education Committee permits pasteurised milk only to be supplied under the milk-in-schools scheme.

Eight samples were examined, all reached the required standard of cleanliness.

### Examinations of Milk for Tubercle Bacilli.

During the year, two samples of milk (raw) examined for tubercle bacilli proved negative.

### Inspection of Cows.

The number in milk at the end of the year was approximately 130. The veterinary inspector examined them quarterly and submitted reports.

### Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

The County Council is responsible for the administration of this Act. I am indebted to the Inspector of Weights and Measures, Chatham for the following figures for the year ended 31st December, 1937 :—

Article	No. of Samples	Article	No. of Samples
New Milk ... ..	88	Sago... ..	1
Sterilised Milk ... ..	2	Coffee ... ..	5
Butter ... ..	20	Mustard Compound ... ..	1
Margarine ... ..	8	Ground Ginger ... ..	1
Cream (fresh) ... ..	7	„ Cinnamon ... ..	1
Flaked Rice ... ..	1	Corned Beef ... ..	1
Flour ... ..	2	Baking Powder ... ..	1
Cocoa ... ..	2	Kipper Snacks ... ..	1
Sugar ... ..	5	Sardines ... ..	1
Pepper ... ..	2	Crushed Linseed ... ..	1
Jam ... ..	2	Cod Liver Oil ... ..	1
Condensed Milk ... ..	1	Mercuric Ointment ... ..	1
Sausage Meat ... ..	1	Iodine ... ..	1
Vinegar ... ..	3	Tincture of Quinine ... ..	3
Lard ... ..	5	Boracic Acid Ointment ... ..	1
Cornflour ... ..	1	Camphorated Oil ... ..	2
Sultanas ... ..	1	Castor Oil ... ..	2
Oatmeal ... ..	2	Whisky ... ..	1
Tapioca ... ..	2	Rum ... ..	1
Tea ... ..	1		
Ground Rice ... ..	1		
		TOTAL ... ..	184



One milk retailer was found to be selling new milk which was deficient in fat to the extent of 20.3% in one instance and 12% in another instance (both samples taken on the same day from the same roundsman). Proceedings resulted, and a fine of 10s. in each case was imposed.

One milk producer was cautioned by the Clerk of the County Council regarding an intercepted sale of milk to a retailer, the fat content of which was found to be below the legal standard. Subsequent samples have proved on analysis to be genuine.

A firm of retail grocers were prosecuted for selling butter which contained 18.07% of water, this being 2.07% in excess of the legal standard. A plea of guilty was entered at the hearing of the summons, but in view of the excellent trading record of the Company the case was dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act on the payment of £2 6s. od. costs.

## Unsound Food.

Subjoined is a list of meat and other foodstuffs destroyed. All were surrendered voluntarily :—

### BEEF.

- 9 Carcases (Tubercular).
- 21 Livers (Tubercular).
- 5½ Livers (Abscess).
- 3 Livers (Cyst).
- 1 Liver (Fluke).
- 2 Livers (Angioma).
- 1 Liver (Bruising).
- 21 Heads (Tubercular).
- 3 Heads (Actinomycosis).
- 13 Tongues (Tubercular).
- 5 Tongues (Actinomycosis).
- 1 Hind Quarter (Tubercular).
- 4 Forequarters (Tubercular).
- 2 Hearts (Tubercular).
- 167 lbs. Meat (Gas Contamination)

### PORK.

- 42 Heads (Tubercular).
- 2 Carcases (Tubercular).
- 2 Pigs (Peritonitis and Pleurisy).
- 1 Pig (Blood Poisoning).
- 14 Livers (Cirrhosis).
- 1 Liver (Peritonitis).
- 1 Liver (Pleurisy).
- 1 Liver (Tuberculosis).
- 7 lbs. of Pork (Broken Rib).
- 2 sides and belly (Mastitis).
- 42 lbs. of Pork (Pleurisy).
- 4 Hearts (Pericarditis).
- 1 Pig's top (Pneumonia).

### MUTTON.

- 10 Carcases (Emaciated and Dropsical).
- 4 Carcases (Unsound).
- 5 Carcases (Emaciated).
- 5 Carcases (Dropsical).
- 1 Carcase (Inflammation).
- 1 Liver (Cirrhosis).
- 1 Shoulder (Bruising and Laceration).
- 1 Leg (Bruising and Laceration).

### OTHER FOODS.

- 1 Ton of Wheat (Polluted by rats).
- 24 lbs. Tomatoes (Unsound).
- 16 lbs. Denmor Ham (Mould).
- 6 lbs. Corned Beef (Unsound).
- 3 Tins of Ham (Blown).

## Slaughterhouses.

There are 14 of which 11 are licensed annually. The remaining 3 are "registered."

### Slaughterhouses on Register at 31st December.

Situation	Name of Owner	Address of Owner
1. *Wyles Street	Walter Wilfred Webb	145 Gillingham Road
2. 68 Victoria Street	Gillingham Co-op. Society, Ltd.	142 High Street
3. 53 Wood Street, Brompton	Messrs. J. and A. Bowra	53 Wood Street, Brompton
4. 114 High Street	E. J. Payne	69 Bryant Road, Strood
5. Chaucer Road	R. W. Hogg	189 Luton Road, Chatham
6. Queen's Road	Rhoda Moffett	57 Sedlescombe Road, St. Leonards, Sussex
7. Upper Britton Place	E. Crawley	79A High Street
8. 78 Station Road, Rainham	Mrs. S. E. Copsey	78 Station Road, Rainham
9. 3 Station Road, Rainham	Mrs. Webb	46 High Street, Bournemouth
10. *76 High Street, Rainham	Kemsley	76 High Street, Rainham
11. *40 High Street, Rainham	C. Kitchingham	40 High Street, Rainham
12. High Street, Rainham	Rainham Co-op. Society	High Street, Rainham
13. Bermudia, Fair- view Av., Wigmore	H. Foulds	Bermudia, Fairview Av., Wigmore
14. 38 Twydall Lane	J. T. Wallis	38 Twydall Lane

\* Registered Slaughterhouse.

**Carcases Inspected and Condemned :—**

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ... ..	327	226	433	1,209	4835
Number inspected ... ..	327	226	433	1,193	4833
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	—	—	—	25	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	21	5	—	4	33
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	6.42	2.21	—	2.43	.72
<b>Tuberculosis Only.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	2	7	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	29	20	1	—	45
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis ... ..	9.48	11.95	.23	—	.99

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

In accordance with Section 3 of this Act the number of persons licensed to slaughter is 32. Licences remain in force for three years.

**Potted and Preserved Meat Premises.**

Under the Gillingham Corporation Act, any premises used for the manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, or other food intended for the purposes of sale, require to be registered.

At 31st December, premises registered number 82.

**Ice Cream Shops.**

These require to be registered in accordance with the Local Act.

At the end of the year the number on the register was 116, compared with 110 in the previous year.

### Fried Fish Shops.

Number on register is 39. Visits numbered 88.

### Shellfish.

In December, 1935, the Minister of Health made the Medway (Shell-Fish) Regulations under Section 130 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

These regulations define a prescribed area of the river Medway from which oysters, etc., shall not be sold for human consumption unless they have been subjected to a satisfactory process of cleaning.

### Nutrition.

At the Child Welfare Centres and more especially at the Toddlers' Clinic special attention is paid to the question of correct diet, periods of rest, etc. Literature is also supplied which deals with many aspects of the subject including the diet appropriate for expectant mothers.

## HOUSING.

Individual unfit houses were dealt with under the Housing Act, 1930, (Sec. 19) and the Housing Act, 1936 (Sec. 11).

Three were demolished and four undertakings accepted that the houses would not be let for human habitation ; these undertakings were cancelled upon the houses being made fit.

Action under the Housing Acts 1930 may be summarised as follows :—

Years	Dwelling-houses Demolished	Persons Displaced	Dwelling-houses Made Fit
1931-1937 ...	57	234	21

In addition, 66 undertakings not to let for human habitation have been accepted by the Corporation ; 15 houses were demolished as the result of informal action and two made fit. Part of three houses were closed.

Repairs in most instances were enforced under the Public Health Acts.

## NEW HOUSES.

At 31st December, there were approximately 17,460 houses in the Borough. The number erected during the year was 375.



### Summary of Years 1921-1937.

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for these figures :—

Year	By Local Authority.	Privately	Total.
1921 ... ..	119	7	126
1922 ... ..	53	19	72
1923 ... ..	—	55	55
1924 ... ..	—	119 (33 without subsidy)	119
1925 ... ..	—	172 ( 5 „ „ )	172
1926 ... ..	—	203 (19 „ „ )	203
1927 ... ..	96	209 (10 „ „ )	315
1928 ... ..	112	157 (24 „ „ )	293
1929 ... ..	133	168 (31 „ „ )	332
1930 ... ..	—	134 (without subsidy)	134
1931 ... ..	102	231 ( „ „ )	333
1932 ... ..	—	265 ( „ „ )	265
1933 ... ..	17	282 ( „ „ )	299
1934 ... ..	115	368 ( „ „ )	483
1935 ... ..	—	303 ( „ „ )	303
1936 ... ..	—	292 ( „ „ )	292
1937 ... ..	8	367 ( „ „ )	375

### Overcrowding.

The housing survey completed in March 1936, showed that there were 105 houses (0.76 per cent.) overcrowded in accordance with the standard laid down in the Housing Act, 1935. 24 (33) Council houses remained overcrowded at the end of the year, and 22 (27) others. With the continued movement of the population it is impossible to maintain an accurate record of all overcrowded houses.

The Local Authority commenced work on the erection of 40 houses as follows :—

For the relief of overcrowding

(a) Houses with 4 bedrooms, 1 living room and 1 parlour (to accommodate $9\frac{1}{2}$ persons) ... ..	8
(b) Houses with 4 bedrooms and 1 living room (to accommodate $7\frac{1}{2}$ persons)...	24
	—

TOTAL ... 32

To house old persons

With 1 bedroom and 1 living room ...	8
	—

TOTAL ... 40

—

At the end of the year 8 houses had been completed and were occupied by persons removed from overcrowded Council houses.

At the 1st May, 1938, 3 Council houses were overcrowded ; the number of non-council houses known to be overcrowded was 22.

### **Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.**

441 houses were subjected to a full routine examination, details entered on " housing cards " and notices served where defects were found.

### **HOUSING SUMMARY.**

#### **NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :—**

(1) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	8
(2) By other local authorities	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	367

#### **I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,128
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	5,830
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	441
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	1,831
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	28
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	792

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... .. 324

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. 2

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners ... .. 2

(b) By local authority in default of owners —

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 449

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners ... .. 408

(b) By local authority in default of owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... .. 5

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... .. 3

(3) Number of dwelling-houses where owner gave undertaking not to let for human habitation 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... .. 3

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. —

## 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—OVERCROWDING.

	Council Houses	Others	Total
(a) (1) Number of dwellings over- crowded at the end of the year ... ..	24	22	46
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	25	22	47
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	186	132	318
(b) Number of new cases of over- crowding reported during the year ... ..	17	7	24
(c) (1) Number of cases of over- crowding relieved during the year ... ..	18	10	28
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	133½	63½	197

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**Water Supply.**

Rainham district is supplied by the Rainham Waterworks Company but the majority of houses in the Borough are in the area of the Chatham and District Company. The former supply is a very soft, the latter a very hard water.

**Chatham Water Company.**

The water is obtained from the chalk formations and is chlorinated regularly as the catchment area is densely built over. Samples taken during the year proved satisfactory. The Health Department takes samples monthly but additional ones are examined at fixed times by the health departments of Rochester and Chatham. The Water Company also samples frequently.

**Rainham Water Company.**

The source of this supply is the lower green sand at a depth of approximately 900 feet. Samples taken were reported as "excellent and good." These are taken monthly by the Health Department. A few houses in the rural parts of the Borough not on the main supply receive water from wells. Some of these were closed as the supply was found to be impure.



## Results of Examinations of Samples.

Samples were examined at the County Council Laboratory, Maidstone. The results were as follows, expressed in parts per 100,000 :—

Date sample taken	...	...	30/11/37 Chatham Water Co.	15/6/37 Rainham Water Co.
Total solid residue	...	...	40.5	34.0
Chlorine	...	...	2.3	3.0
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.001	0.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0	0.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	0.2	0.1
Oxygen absorbed, $\frac{1}{4}$ hour at 80° F.			0.009	0.012
„ „ 4 hours „			0.012	0.031
Nitrites	...	...	Absent	Absent

The Analyst's remarks in each case were "The water was of excellent organic quality."

Bacteriological examination showed B. Coli (presumptive) absent in 100 c.cs.

## Rainfall.

The Borough Surveyor has kindly supplied me with the figures for rainfall taken at Gillingham Park.

Avg. during Years 1922–1932	...	24.7 ins.
Year 1937	...	34.3 „

During 1937 the monthly figures were :—

January	...	...	...	5.36 ins.
February	...	...	...	4.54 „
March	...	...	...	3.33 „
April	...	...	...	2.46 „
May	...	...	...	2.74 „
June	...	...	...	2.33 „
July	...	...	...	1.62 „
August	...	...	...	2.39 „
September	...	...	...	2.07 „
October	...	...	...	2.32 „
November	...	...	...	1.84 „
December	...	...	...	3.28 „

TOTAL	...	34.28 ins.
-------	-----	------------

The number of days on which rain fell during 1937 was 202.

## Drainage and Sewerage.

Five hundred and ninety-three houses in Rainham were connected to the main sewerage system of which 399 were new buildings.

One hundred and ninety-four conservancy systems were converted.

The present position is as follows :—

Total houses connected to sewer during 1937	772	{ (Includes 593 in Rainham)
House connected to sewers (Whole Borough)	15,000	
„ „ „ „ (Rainham)	1,945	
Number (approximate) of Cesspools	815	
„ „ „ „ Privies	74	
„ „ „ „ Earth closets	11	
„ „ „ „ Pail closets	74	

Cesspools or Privies were emptied on 1,023 (1,211) occasions.  
Drains cleared numbered 1,288 (1,543).

## Refuse Collection and Disposal.

This is under the control of the Borough Surveyor. House refuse is collected weekly and transported to the Corporation's Tip.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

This portion of the report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr. D. Ball, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

### PREMISES ETC., VISITED DURING 1937.

	No. of Visits
Milk shops and dairies and retailers of bottled sterilised milk	308
Cowsheds ... ..	<del>32</del> 129
Bakehouses ... ..	47
Slaughterhouses ... ..	2,644
Factories ... ..	90
Workshops and workplaces ... ..	83
Outworkers' premises ... ..	55
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance ... ..	107
Re notified infectious diseases ... ..	408
Houses (filthy or verminous) ... ..	79
Refreshment houses, or premises where food is prepared ...	828
School lavatories ... ..	17
Shops under Shops Acts... ..	1,104
Public lavatories ... ..	1,384
Drains tested ... ..	35
Houses let in lodgings ... ..	—

## NUISANCES ABATED.

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	412
WATER CLOSETS :							
New L.C.C. pans and traps fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Water closets re-built	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New water closets constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water closets fittings repaired (water)	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Water closets seats, doors, floors, brickwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	222
Water closets pans cleansed by tenants	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ventilation provided to water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
WATER SUPPLY :							
Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Internal supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
YARDS :							
Drained and paved with cement concrete	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
SINKS AND BATHS :							
Glazed stoneware sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Sink waste pipes provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
DRAINAGE :							
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Subsidiary sewers cleared by Health Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,288
Drains cleared by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Subsidiary sewers cleared and repaired by Works Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Inspection chambers repaired by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Inspection chambers repaired by Works Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Inspection chambers covers and frames fitted by Works Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Vent shafts repaired by Works Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
DAMPNESS :							
Roofs repaired and made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	...	579
Eaves guttering and down water pipes provided or repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	...	318
External walls protected from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	465
Damp-proof courses inserted under walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Ventilation provided under floors...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Forecourts paved with cement concrete	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
GENERAL :							
Disused cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Accumulation of refuse in yard removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cellar walls cleansed and concrete laid to floor	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Cooking ranges and coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	191

## NUISANCES ABATED—*continued*.

Dangerous cellar flaps repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Sashes, doors, frames, floors and stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	939
Filthy houses cleansed by tenants	...	...	...	...	3
Rooms re-papered and ceilings repaired and distempered	...	...	...	...	1,031
Smoke nuisance abated	...	...	...	...	26

## PRELIMINARY AND ABATEMENT NOTICES.

During the year the following notices were served :—

Informal Notices for the abatement of various nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	775
Abatement Notices concerning various nuisances (Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	449
Statutory Notices respecting the removal of manure or other offensive matter (Section 79, P.H.A., 1936)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, Section 67, notices respecting the fixing of separate water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Section 49 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, respecting fixing of glazed stoneware sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

## Provision of Sanitary Dustbins.

Section 100 of the Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, requires the service of notices upon owners to provide regulation sanitary dustbins.

The following figures show the position at 31st December, 1937 :

	1937	Total to 31st Dec., 1937
Number of notices served	399	2,945
Number of notices complied with...	569	2,899

## Factory and Workshop Act, 1901-1907.

There are 247 factories, workshops and workplaces on the register. 173 inspections were made. Outworkers premises numbered 48 and 55 visits were paid.



# FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

## 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors :—

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries) ...	90	1	—
Workshops ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	72	21	—
Workplaces ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises)	11	2	—
TOTAL ...	173	24	—

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness ...	5	5	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors...	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	4	4	—	—
{ unsuitable	14	14	—	—
{ or defective	—	—	—	—
{ not separate	—	—	—	—
{ for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts :— ... ..				
Illegal occupation of under-ground bakehouse (S.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
TOTAL ... ..	28	28	—	—

## Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The Inspector appointed under the Act, investigated 40 complaints. Considerable quantities of rat poison were provided, chiefly in the form of biscuits.

## Shops Acts and Shops (Early Closing) Order.

One of the Sanitary Inspectors is also Shops Inspector and gives approximately one-third of his time to duties concerned with the Shops Acts.

Visits to shops numbered 1,104.

Notices were served in connection with the following defects :—

Insufficient W.C. accommodation...	...	4
Unsuitable sanitary accommodation	...	12
Insufficient washing facilities	...	4
Heating	...	6
Insufficient accommodation for meals	...	3
		—
		29
		—

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

### Shops Acts, 1912-1934.

- (1) Failing to keep prescribed records of hours (Sec. 7 Shop Acts, 1934).  
Failing to allow assistants statutory time off for meals (Sec. 9 Shop Acts, 1912).  
Failing to exhibit notices respecting weekly half-holiday (Sec. 1 Shop Acts, 1912).  
Result. Fine of £2 and costs.

### Milk and Dairies Orders, 1915-1926.

- (2) Filling bottles with milk on other than registered premises. (Sec. 31 Milk and Dairies Order, 1926).  
Failing to have name and address of purveyor on vehicle. (Sec. 6 Milk and Dairies Act, 1915).  
Failing to register as a milk purveyor. (Sec. 1 Milk and Dairies Act, 1915).  
Result. Fine of £1 10s. od. and costs.
- (3) Filling bottles on other than registered premises.  
Result. Fine of 4s. and costs.

**Public Health Act, 1875 Sec. 116.**

- (4) Depositing meat unfit for human consumption for the purpose of sale and intended for the food of man.

Two partners of the firm fined £10 each and costs. The Manager fined £2 and costs.

**Housing Act, 1936.**

- (5) FIVE CASES. Failing to comply with Section 62 (4) re-permitted number in respect to persons residing in the house.

Result. Particulars entered in rent books and summons withdrawn on payment of costs.

- (6) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. Failing to comply with notices served under Section 93.

Result. Work carried out. Summons withdrawn on payment of costs.

**Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928.**

Letters of warning were sent to 6 shop-keepers who were reported by the Inspector for failing to comply with this Act.

**Disinfestation.**

The house and contents of persons granted council houses are carefully inspected for vermin and disinfestation carried out where necessary. Houses are sprayed with a suitable solution or fumigated with sulphur. In badly infested houses the skirtings, picture-rails, etc., are removed and a blow-pipe applied. Bedding is steam disinfected and furniture sprayed at the Council Yard and transported direct to the Council house.

The sanitary inspectors pay frequent visits to satisfy themselves that re-infestation does not take place.

Number of Council houses found to be infested	...	16
Number of other houses found to be infested	...	108
		<hr/>
TOTAL	...	124
		<hr/>

Number of houses sprayed	...	52
Number of houses fumigated with sulphur...	...	85
Number of houses sprayed and fumigated	...	15
Total number of rooms fumigated or sprayed	...	556

LICENCES.

Licences were granted for the following :—

Petroleum	...	...	...	...	65
Calcium Carbide	...	...	...	...	3

SWIMMING POOL.

The Corporation's open-air swimming pool is situated on the banks of the River Medway. Purification is by means of a Candy Filtration Plant.

Three samples taken during the summer months reached the generally-accepted standard of cleanliness.

MORTUARY.

Forty-eight bodies were received and 28 post-mortems performed.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Table showing seasonal incidence of Infectious Diseases (Local Records).

Month		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Typhoid
January	...	13	—	24	2	—	—	—
February	...	9	3	3	3	—	—	—
March	...	7	—	6	5	—	1	—
April	...	17	2	1	2	—	—	1
May	...	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
June	...	10	1	1	1	—	—	—
July	...	8	2	1	—	—	—	1
August	...	13	2	2	1	—	—	—
September	...	35	2	2	—	—	1	—
October	...	30	2	2	—	1	—	—
November	...	32	16	3	1	—	—	—
December	...	33	12	3	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	211	42	50	17	1	2	2



**Table showing :—**(a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1937.  
 (b) The number removed to Hospital.  
 (c) The total number of deaths in the Borough from these diseases.

**(Local Records).**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED														Deaths
	AT AGES										YEARS				
	All ages	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	Over 65		
Scarlet Fever ... ..	211	—	6	8	20	10	128	19	6	10	1	3	—	122	1
Diphtheria ... ..	42	—	—	—	3	2	19	9	—	8	1	—	—	32	1
Pneumonia ... ..	50	2	—	3	2	1	2	1	3	8	8	15	5	5	—
Erysipelas... ..	17	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	9	2	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—

# BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM. Vital Statistics of whole District during 1915-37.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District	Transferable Deaths		Net Deaths belonging to the District				
		Uncor-rected Number	Net		of Non-Residents registered in the District	of Resi-dents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of age		At all ages		
			Number				Rate	Number		Rate per 1,000 Net Births	
											Number
1915 ..	45,058	1,080	1,069	23.7	611	17	23	101	95.0	605	13.4
1916 ..	45,058	1,213	1,213	26.9	625	23	30	87	71.7	632	14.0
1917 ..	45,646	1,052	1,052	23.0	575	21	33	86	81.7	587	12.8
1918 ..	43,154	1,037	1,037	21.4	715	21	32	66	63.6	726	16.8
1919 ..	47,914	1,135	1,135	25.0	531	14	15	70	61.5	532	11.0
1920 ..	45,243	1,483	1,483	28.4	520	11	22	70	47.2	531	11.7
1921 Census ..	54,038	—	1,260	23.3	637	56	11	82	65.0	581	11.8
1922 ..	a54,570	1,197	1,109	20.2	467	47	118	70	61.0	538	11.0
1923 ..	b48,630	1,118	1,072	19.4	405	46	126	52	48.5	485	10.1
1924 ..	a56,230	1,014	943	16.7	414	40	145	49	52.0	519	10.8
1925 ..	b48,130	1,059	951	16.6	395	37	141	49	51.5	501	10.2
1926 ..	a57,080	1,053	938	16.4	421	53	172	50	51.0	544	11.3
1927 ..	b47,820	1,002	844	14.6	395	43	200	50	59.0	557	11.4
1928 ..	a57,510	1,027	860	15.0	391	43	162	48	56.0	533	10.4
1929 ..	b48,530	1,088	1,007	15.6	649	67	211	57	56.0	689	12.5
1930 ..	a64,250	1,176	976	14.8	484	50	200	40	40.0.	634	11.1
1931 Census ..	b55,000	1,119	962	15.7	465	37	205	50	51.9	635	12.4
1932 ..	*62,050	1,172	*1,000	16.1	426	44	246	*36	36.0	*661	10.7
1933 ..	*60,830	1,157	*954	14.0	476	44	247	*48	50.0	*679	11.1
1934 ..	*61,960	1,049	*883	14.3	457	43	235	*47	53.0	*649	10.5
1935 ..	*62,490	1,156	*940	15.0	465	48	293	*40	43.0	*710	11.4
1936 ..	*64,790	1,109	*932	14.4	481	43	242	*35	38.0	*680	10.5
1937 ..	*69,320	1,286	*1,064	15.4	506	48	312	*56	53.0	*770	11.6

*a* Registrar-General's Estimate for calculating Birth Rate. *b* Registrar-General's Estimate for calculating Death Rate.  
\* Figure given by Registrar-General.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE  
YEAR 1937.

(Provisional figures.)

	Rate per 1,000 Population		Annual Death rate per 1,000 Population									Rate per 1,000 Live Births		Percentage of Total Deaths				
	Live Births	Still-Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-typhoid fevers	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Total Deaths (under One year)	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest	Uncertified causes of Death	
—	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	5.8	58	Not Available	90.3	3.5	4.8	1.4
England and Wales																		
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	7.9	62					
148. Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	3.2	55					
London	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	12.0	60					
Gillingham	15.4	0.43	11.6	0.01	—	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.49	0.38	3.8	53					

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows:—

{ "per 1,000 Live Births"  
"Total Births"

Puerperal Sepsis	Others	Total
0.97	2.26	3.23
0.94	2.17	3.11





CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 yrs.	2 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 35 yrs.	35 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 55 yrs.	55 and under 65 yrs.	65 and under 75 yrs.	75 and over
ALL CAUSES :—		770	56	3	10	12	15	35	42	72	150	173	202
1.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Measles .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough .. ..	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Influenza .. ..	34	2	—	1	2	—	1	2	2	10	3	11
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	40	—	—	2	1	4	11	7	5	8	2	—
10.	Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	8	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	3	—	—	—
11.	Syphilis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	General Paralysis of the insane, Tabes Dorsalis .. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease ..	97	1	—	—	—	1	1	4	18	32	28	12
14.	Diabetes .. ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ..	40	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	16	10	8
16.	Heart Disease .. ..	237	1	—	—	—	—	4	9	15	38	63	105
17.	Aneurysm .. ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	2
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases ..	36	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7	6	9	12
19.	Bronchitis .. ..	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	7
20.	Pneumonia (all forms) .. ..	35	3	—	2	1	1	2	2	5	4	5	10
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer .. ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	—
23.	Diarrhœa, etc., (under 2 years)	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Appendicitis .. ..	6	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	1	—	—
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver .. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases .. ..	21	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis ..	18	1	—	—	—	1	1	5	1	4	2	7
29.	Puerperal Sepsis .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	4
30.	Other Puerperal Causes .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ..	32	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Senility .. ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9
33.	Suicide .. ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
34.	Other Violence .. ..	16	1	—	2	—	—	2	2	1	3	4	2
35.	Other Defined Diseases .. ..	66	5	—	2	—	3	6	3	2	7	27	6
36.	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ..	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM  
KENT  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report  
OF THE  
School Medical Officer

W. A. MUIR, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1937.





# GILLINGHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 1937-1938.

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Councillor F. R. WHITE, B.A., J.P., C.C.

## Vice-Chairman.

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Alderman W. H. HOLDING, J.P.	Councillor Capt. E. McDONALD.
Alderman J. J. KNIGHT,	Councillor J. W. MEDHURST, J.P.
Alderman Mrs. B. J. PARR, J.P.	Councillor L. J. NEWNHAM, J.P.
Alderman A. W. TAPP, J.P., C.C.	(Mayor)
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Councillor T. HOUGHTON.	Mrs. H. E. JONES.
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M.A.	Mr. A. J. C. WEBBER.
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## SCHOOL MEDICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

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Councillor W. SUTHERLAND.	Mr. A. T. SHARMAN.

together with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the General Purposes Committee.

## STAFF.

### School Medical Officer.

W. A. MUIR, M.B., Ch.B., M.D., D.P.H.

### Assistant School Medical Officer.

META L. DUNLOP, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

### Dental Anaesthetist.

S. A. BATHER, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### Dental Surgeon.

W. S. STEVENS, Esq., L.D.S.

### Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids.

\*A. G. WOODFORDE, Esq., M.B.

### Nurses.

Miss C. MAYHEW (whole time)  
Miss N. LEGG (half time)  
Miss E. ROSS (half time)  
Mrs. A. LEACH (one-third time)  
Miss R. HOPKINS (one-third time)  
Miss M. HUGHES (one-third time)  
Miss H. PARRY (one-third time)

### Clerks.

C. FRANCIS. R. W. WRIGHT.

### Dental Attendant and Clerk.

Miss D. BALCOMBE.

★Hon. Staff, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.

GILLINGHAM, KENT

16th February, 1938

*To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit the Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Department for the year ending 31st Dec., 1937.

Although the work assumes a great variety of forms it is to be remembered that its essential objective is to maintain and preserve the health of the school child. Inspections and Clinics have been conducted on much the same lines as in previous years and the totals at the end of the year reach imposing figures. Medical examinations numbered 6,755, dental inspections 7,641 and home visits by nurses 2,626.

It has now become obvious that part-time medical assistance for school work is necessary if the duties of the health, maternity and child welfare and school medical departments are to be carried on with efficiency.

The new Balmoral Gardens Clinic, which was opened on 21st July, provides facilities for medical examinations and treatment and dental treatment, and is much appreciated not only by the staff but by the patients.

I wish to express my appreciation of the work carried out by the medical, nursing and clerical staffs. Mr. Francis, the chief school clerk is to be congratulated on his careful and accurate record-keeping throughout the year as his figures form the basis of this report. I also wish to acknowledge the valuable co-operation of the Education Secretary.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. MUIR,  
*School Medical Officer.*

## SUMMARY

---

No. on roll at 31st December, 1937	...	...	7,956
Average attendance during 1937	...	...	7,169
“Routine” cases examined	...	...	2,835
Total medical examinations	...	...	6,755
Percentage of children found at routine examination to require treatment (excluding dental defects and uncleanness)	...	...	13.6%
Visits to schools by nurses...	...	...	331
Visits to homes by nurses	...	...	2626
Inspections by school dentist	...	...	7641
Treated by school dentist	...	...	821
Percentage of average attendance found verminous			7.1
Percentage of average attendance excluded for verminous conditions	...	...	3.2
Total attendances at various clinics (dental excluded)			11,329
Gross cost of elementary education, year ending 31st March, 1937	...	...	£101,265
Gross cost of school medical department for year ending 31st March, 1937	...	...	£3,400
Net cost of school medical dept. to ratepayers		...	£1,590

## STAFF

This is shown in detail on page 2. Dr. S. A. Bather was appointed dental anæsthetist in April and during the same month an additional health visitor, who gives one third of her time to school medical work.

## HYGIENE OF SCHOOLS

There is nothing new to report.

## MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Routine inspections of the three age groups as defined by the Board of Education were performed in the schools and school clinics.

The age groups are :—

1. On entry to school.
2. 8-9 years.
3. 12 years.

Total inspections, routine and special, numbered 3,920 (3,949). Of the 2,814 children examined at routine inspections 13.6 (12.4) per cent. were found to require treatment (excluding defects of nutrition, uncleanliness and dental diseases).

Tables I and II in the Appendix give full details. Defective vision and diseases of the nose and throat again head the list.

			1936	1937
Routine Examinations	...	...	2,767	2,835
Re-examinations	...	...	1,986	1,988
Special Examinations	...	...	1,987	1,932

In December the number on the school roll was 7,956 (7,969) and the average attendance during the year was 7,169 (7,148).

Parents are invariably notified of the time of examination and the number which attends is satisfactorily high except in the 12 year old age group. From the doctor's point of view the presence of the parent is of great assistance as information of value is able to be received and given.

Parents were present as follows :—

<i>Group</i>				1936	1937
Entrants	...	...	...	{ Boys 93%	95%
				{ Girls 93%	93%
Intermediates	...	...	...	{ Boys 80%	85%
				{ Girls 82%	87%
Leavers	...	...	...	{ Boys 57%	57%
				{ Girls 70%	62%



## Findings of Routine Medical Inspections

### (a) *Diseases of the Skin.*

3 cases only were found during routine inspections but 139 attended at the clinics as special cases, being sent there by teachers or nurses. 88 required treatment for impetigo (generally due to dirt), and 32 for scabies (itch).

### Skin Diseases Treated

Ringworm of scalp	...	...	...	...	5
Ringworm of body	...	...	...	...	17
Scabies (itch)	...	...	...	...	32
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	88

In addition 382 (337) were treated for bruises, cuts, scratches and septic sores.

### (b) *Visual Defects (including squint).*

As a rule the vision of school entrants (5 to 6 years) is not tested. Among 1,751 "intermediates" and "leavers" 100 or 5.7 per cent. (5.8) were referred for treatment. In addition 9 cases of squint were discovered at routine inspection whilst 213 cases of defective vision and squint attended the clinics as "specials," making a total of 326 which represents 4.5 per cent of the average attendance. All children with a defect of  $\frac{6}{12}$  or more in either eye are referred for treatment.

### (c) *Ear Defects.*

13 cases were detected at routine inspections and 66 specials treated at the clinics. The majority suffered from "discharging ears."

### (d) *Defects of the Nose and Throat.*

Among routine cases 173 (6.1 per cent.) required treatment and a further 4.7 per cent. were referred for observation.

## NUTRITION

No index of nutrition has met with general acceptance and in the present state of knowledge it is impossible to assess nutrition accurately. What is "normal" cannot be defined but is widely interpreted as meaning "average."

The majority of school medical officers base their classification on weight-height-age ratios and the clinical appearance.

Additional methods are performance tests, mensurational tests and tests for special deficiencies, but these are difficult, or impossible to apply at routine inspections.

As required by the Board, children were assessed as “excellent,” “normal,” “slightly subnormal,” and “bad.” The figures for the last 3 years are as follows :—

	Excellent %	Normal %	Slightly Sub-normal %	Bad %
1935	13.2	84.7	2.0	.1
1936	10.5	87.8	1.7	—
1937	12.3	85.3	2.4	—

Heights and weights were as shown and compare favourably with those of previous years.

## HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

### Boys

Age.	No. examined.	Average Height in inches.	Average Weight in lbs.
5—6 years ...	431	42 $\frac{3}{4}$	42
6—7 „ ...	100	44 $\frac{3}{4}$	46
7—8 „ ...	10	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	50
8—9 „ ...	487	50	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
12—13 „ ...	427	57	80 $\frac{1}{4}$
13—14 „ ...	30	60	95 $\frac{3}{4}$

### GIRLS

Age.	No. examined.	Average Height in inches.	Average Weight in lbs.
5—6 years ...	402	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	40 $\frac{3}{4}$
6—7 „ ...	101	44 $\frac{1}{4}$	44 $\frac{3}{4}$
7—8 „ ...	19	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	50
8—9 „ ...	429	50	56 $\frac{1}{4}$
12—13 „ ...	306	58	83 $\frac{1}{2}$
13—14 „ ...	62	60	92 $\frac{1}{4}$

## PROVISION OF MILK

Pasteurised milk is the only grade permitted.  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint is supplied free where the total family income falls within the approved scale if considered necessary on medical grounds. It is also granted in selected cases on medical grounds only.

These figures were supplied by the Education Secretary.

Highest number of children on register at any time during 1937	...	...	...	...	308 (350)
Lowest number of children on register at any time during 1937	...	...	...	...	222 (213)
Average number of children on register per month	...	...	...	...	277 (320)
Total number of milk meals supplied during 1937	...	...	...	...	104,126 (117,164)
Cost of milk	...	...	...	...	£217 (£244)
Cost of biscuits	...	...	...	...	£38 (£39)

In the month of December the number of children purchasing milk at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint was 3,700, or 46.5 per cent. of those on the school roll compared with 45 per cent in the previous year.

### SCHOOL CANTEENS

There are two, one at Hempstead and the other at Rainham Junior Council School. At both these schools are many children who coming from considerable distances, and being unable to go home at mid-day, benefit greatly by the facilities available at the canteens.

During the 12 months ending 31st March, 1937, the Rainham Canteen supplied 16,787 dinners, of which 1,817 were provided free ; at Hempstead the number was 8,321, of which 809 were free.

### PHYSICAL TRAINING

Two Physical Organisers appointed by the Kent Education Committee act in an advisory capacity in Gillingham. The following is extracted from the report of Mr. F. S. Claxton, dated June, 1937.

“ The Physical Training in the area is, on the whole, of a very fair standard. Some of the teachers show great keenness in their lessons and much of the work is very good. In some schools, semi-specialisation is having very good results. Facilities are very satisfactory as regards playground accommodation, although more use might be made of playground markings. There is a definite lack of good playing-fields. The Langton Field is rather a long way from some of the schools that use it, and its efficiency would be greatly increased if some means could be arranged for the conveyance of children to and from the field. It might also be possible to make arrangements for the use of the piece of land on the Strand for Organised Games.



As it is general throughout the country, many schools have no provision for Physical Training in wet weather. This means that in the winter months the amount of Physical Training that is done is greatly reduced. Some schools have overcome the difficulty by converting a class-room into a special Physical Training room. Others have taken steps to hire a nearby hall. In the case of Church Schools, it is often practicable to make use of the Church Hall, the only cost incurred being for lighting and heating. The schools have all been well supplied with apparatus, but perhaps it would be as well for a meeting to be held to revise the material that has been issued and to make a few additions.

The chief difficulty encountered has been with regard to the question of changing for the Physical Training lesson. Most of the children have had far too many garments on when taking part in what should be a vigorous lesson. Improvement is rapid, however, once a start has been made. It is largely a matter of educating the parent. With this end in view I suggest that it might be practicable to consider holding a public demonstration of some of the Physical Training films in a cinema in Gillingham to which parents as well as children should be invited. This has been done successfully in other areas in Kent. The most important item with regard to changing is the provision of suitable footwear. While it is agreed that some children will provide their own plimsoles if urged to do so by their teacher, the large majority of them are unable to afford them. Where the school can provide room for the storage of the shoes, it would be very beneficial if the Education Committee could provide them. This is now being done by the Kent Education Committee.

Swimming facilities would seem to be fairly satisfactory in the summer, but there is a very definite need for a closed-in bath in the winter."

The Schools' Athletic Association is active in promoting and arranging different types of sport, viz. swimming, boxing, football.

Boxing tournaments, especially, are entered into with enthusiasm and zeal.

In each new school a large hall is available in which physical training is given at regular periods during the week.

In connection with the "National Keep Fit Campaign" many instructive posters were exhibited in schools and other public buildings and large numbers of folders distributed amongst scholars and their parents.



*Swimming.*

Instruction is given to selected children at the Corporation open-air swimming pool.

The following figures summarise the 1937 season :—

1	No. on Roll (Boys 475, Girls 460)	...	935
2	Members qualified for Certificates (able to swim at least 50 yards)	...	312
3	Members able to swim a little	...	360
4	Certificates endorsed with greater distances		197
5	Qualified for certificates but <i>not</i> members of class	... ..	48
6	Advanced Classes	... ..	332
	Total attending Baths weekly...	1,267	
	Number taught to swim	...	672
	Increase in numbers taught to swim this year	... ..	116
	Awards of the Royal Life Saving Society		
	Intermediate Certificates	...	17
	Medallions	... ..	11
	Bars	... ..	4

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet fever was prevalent, 151 school children being affected, the highest number since the year 1929. The incidence of diphtheria continued low.

The following summary gives the number of patients and contacts excluded during the years 1929–37 (Private schools included).

Year	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria	
	Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts
1929	160	—	144	—
1930	93	—	24	—
1931	55	64	11	22
1932	102	112	7	10
1933	122	130	14	20
1934	62	63	38	40
1935	62	57	14	37
1936	69	50	5	6
1937	151	135	28	34

## MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, CHICKEN POX, MUMPS

These diseases are not compulsorily notifiable. Chicken pox and mumps were widespread, but there were only 3 known cases of measles compared with 821 in the previous year.

	Year	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Measles ...	...	158	662	6	821	3
German measles ...	...	—	325	22	13	11
Whooping cough ...	...	94	159	88	400	170
Chicken-pox ...	...	208	224	425	116	531
Mumps ...	...	227	34	94	500	593

Details of cases, etc., in individual schools may be found on page 24.

The attendance at the schools indicated, fell below 60 per cent. during the periods given, due to the prevalence of influenza and whooping cough.

Barnsole Road Infants' :	11th to 15th January.
Gillingham C. of E. Infants' :	11th to 22nd „
Woodlands Infants' :	11th to 22nd „
Richmond Road Infants' :	18th to 22nd „
Gillingham C. of E. Boys' :	18th to 22nd „
Rainham C. of E. Infants' :	18th to 22nd „

## FOLLOWING-UP BY NURSES

2,626 home visits were paid of which rather more than half were in connection with children suffering from whooping cough, chicken pox, etc. There are seven nurses on the staff of the health department but the time expended on school work is equal to three and a third nurses.

### Summary of School Medical Work

	1936	1937
(1) Total visits to schools ...	349	331
(2) Attendances at routine medical inspections ...	133	123
(3) Attendances at clinics ...	498	513
(4) Visits to home <i>re</i>		
(a) Defective children ...	1,437	1,172
(b) Non-notifiable infectious diseases ...	1,969	1,454
(5) Examinations of heads and bodies <i>re</i> cleanliness ...	20,796	22,759
(6) Notices sent <i>re</i> nits (children not excluded from school) ...	225	211
(7) Notices sent <i>re</i> nits and vermin (children excluded from school) ...	286	306

## MEDICAL TREATMENT

The Balmoral Garden's Minor Ailment Clinic is open daily at 9 a.m. except during holidays, and the Rainham Centre three times a week. Total attendances numbered 6,286 and were made by 1,364 children. Impetigo was again prevalent especially in Rainham.

### ATTENDANCES AT TREATMENT CLINICS

				Balmoral Gardens	Rainham	Total 1937	Total 1936
Ringworm...	...	...	...	135	12	147	303
Ear defects	...	...	...	516	52	568	381
Impetigo	...	...	...	948	1,010	1,958	1,535
Eczema	...	...	...	45	—	45	147
Scabies	...	...	...	68	22	90	100
Alopecia	...	...	...	6	—	6	11
External eye disease	...	...	...	571	46	617	784
Other conditions	...	...	...	2,809	555	3,364	3,025
Total				5,098	1,697	6,795	6,286

Children suffering from the following conditions made 3,903 attendances for inspection :—

				Balmoral Gardens	Rainham	Total 1937	Total 1936
Catarrh, sore throats, colds, etc.				98	21	119	123
Vermin of head or body, nits, etc.				639	76	715	615
Ringworm...	...	...	...	65	5	70	101
Impetigo	...	...	...	107	61	168	95
Scabies	...	...	...	80	5	85	77
Eczema	...	...	...	11	—	11	2
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	343	45	388	291
Defective vision, "sore eyes," etc.				207	38	245	269
Nose and throat diseases			...	487	77	564	427
Tubercular and pretubercular conditions	...	...	...	21	11	32	37
Chorea	...	...	...	15	15	30	34
Epilepsy	...	...	...	8	—	8	9
Ear disease	...	...	...	79	10	89	81
Heart disease	...	...	...	11	7	18	35
Rheumatism	...	...	...	16	—	16	21
Deformities	...	...	...	26	6	32	25
Convalescents from infectious diseases	...	...	...	244	30	274	233
Other diseases or defects			...	748	291	1,039	1,182
Total				3,205	698	3,903	3,657

## NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS

Operative treatment is provided at St. Bart's. Hospital, Rochester, but a number of parents make their own arrangements for treatment at the Kent County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital, Maidstone.

The cost to the Committee is £1/4/6 per case and parents are expected to pay according to family income. Under a recent arrangement those who are subscribers to St. Bart's. Hospital make no payment and the charge to the Committee is reduced to £1/1/-.

169 children received operative treatment, of which 118 were dealt with under the Authority's scheme. Of those recommended *during the year* 35.8 per cent. obtained treatment by Dec. 31st.

## EAR DEFECTS

107 children were treated, 98 at the clinics. Many of these cases are persistent, requiring treatment over prolonged periods. Different remedies are employed but the best results were obtained by glycerine of carbolic (1-30), acriflavine emulsion (1-1,000), or fine boracic acid powder containing .75 per cent. of iodine.

## OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

Dr. Dunlop is in charge of the eye clinic. 324 children made 631 attendances ; glasses were prescribed in 225 cases and obtained in 213 (94 per cent.)

### *Errors of Refraction.*

Hypermetropic astigmatism	...	...	41 = 19%
Myopic astigmatism	...	...	22 = 10.5%
Mixed astigmatism	...	...	20 = 9%
Simple astigmatism	...	...	22 = 10.5%
Hypermetropia	...	...	58 = 27%
Myopia	...	...	50 = 24%
Total			213

The work of the clinic may be summarised thus :—

Sessions held	...	...	...	90
Individual children attended	...	...	...	324
Total attendances	...	...	...	631
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	225
Glasses not required or no change necessary	...	...	...	83
Still attending clinic	...	...	...	16



Dr. Dunlop submits the following report :—

“ The cases for examination were selected as in former years, viz :—

“ 1. Those found at routine medical inspection to have a defect of or greater than  $\frac{6}{12}$  in visual acuity. Only the vision of children over 7 years is tested at routine inspection.

“ 2. Squints in all age periods.

“ 3. Cases of recurring conditions, such as conjunctivitis, hordoleum, etc.

“ 4. Cases referred by parent or teacher on account of a suspected visual defect.

“ When the routine medical examination of a school takes place the visual acuity of all children in the school who are wearing glasses is tested. The results thus obtained are compared in the case of those who have been treated at the Ophthalmic Clinic with the records of refraction and advised further examination if necessary. Where treatment has been obtained privately the parents are notified if further examination is recommended. By this means all cases of refractive error are observed at least annually.

“ It has been my custom for some time to advise the parents or guardians of all children suffering from myopia, myopic and mixed astigmatism to have a refraction examination made annually in order that the progressive tendency of the defect may be checked, if possible.

“ When parents or guardians who have been notified of a visual defect in a child do not make application for treatment within one month they are passed on to the school nurse to follow up. The proportion of children who fail to obtain treatment at the clinic or privately is infinitesimal.

“ I find at routine inspections that the proportion of children who receive refraction through an ophthalmic surgeon, hospital or oculist is small—about 8%.”

## DENTAL INSPECTIONS AND TREATMENT

I am indebted to Mr. Stevens, School Dental Surgeon, for the following report.

“ The figures relating to the dental work carried out during 1937 will be found in Table V of the Board of Education Returns.

“ The number of half days devoted to treatment was 453. Of these, one session per week and a session, about once a month, for general anaesthetics, is given to the Rainham Clinic. The remaining time is given to Gillingham Clinic. Inspections take place at the

schools, on an average of two sessions per week during the school year, at all the schools in the Borough, and it is my custom to inspect each school at least once during the year. I am of opinion that this is not always sufficient, but it has to be remembered, that whilst one is inspecting, one cannot be giving time for treatment. As regards these inspections, the age groups are from 5 to 14 years and over, as many children stay on now-a-days to 15 or over. Opportunities for dental treatment are given specially to those boys entering the Army, Navy and Air Force, or H.M. Dockyard. During this year, the New Clinic was opened and its popularity is reflected in the greater numbers of applications for dental treatment, since. These applications are put under the item, 'specials.'

"During the year the actual number of stoppings has been less.

"Cases of non-attendance, when it is chiefly for conservative work, are followed up by the school Nurses, who are very helpful in this work.

"Extractions are done under local and general anaesthetics. In this latter work, I have been considerably helped by the services of the assistant Medical Officers.

"The figures for the item, 'other operations,' are very variable, and cover such items as removal of dressings or fillings, insertion of temporary dressings, silver nitrate treatment, scaling and gum treatment, discing and polishing fillings and adjusting apparatus.

"Special attention is always given to children suffering from glandular swellings around the neck, children referred to me by the Tuberculosis Officer, children suffering from Rheumatism and also those about to undergo operations for the removal of tonsils and adenoids."

The School Dentist gives his whole time (viz. 11 sessions per week) to the treatment of school children and no methods of restriction are adopted with the view of reducing the numbers permitted to enter the scheme.

Treatment is therefore available for all attending elementary schools in the area. The dentist reports that children whose parents have refused to allow them to receive treatment are not excluded except in exceptional cases.

## ORTHOPAEDICS AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

No scheme has been adopted by the Education Committee but treatment is available at St. Bart's. Hospital, Rochester, or at the London Orthopaedic Hospital.

35 children were treated, 4 as in-patients. Another 3 were admitted to the Heritage Craft School, Chailey. 12 were provided with surgical appliances at a net cost to the authority of £22.

Cripples are defined by the Board as those incapacitated to such a degree as to be unable to take part, in any complete sense, in physical exercises or games or to receive proper benefit from instruction in ordinary elementary schools.

At the end of the year there were 16 on the register.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Infantile paralysis	...	...	3	—	3
T.B. of bones and joints	...	...	2	—	2
Talipes	...	...	1	—	1
Other deformities	...	...	4	6	10
			—	—	—
Total	...	...	10	6	16
			—	—	—

## RHEUMATISM, CHOREA AND HEART DISEASE

The following cases on the register are kept under observation :—

					Boys.	Girls.
Chorea	...	...	...	...	9	5
Heart disease following rheumatism or						
chorea	...	...	...	...	4	2
Acute and subacute rheumatism				...	4	5
					—	—
					17	12
					—	—
Total	...	...			29	

One child suffered from heart disease of such a severe character as to be unable to attend the public elementary school.

## PARENTS' PAYMENTS FOR TREATMENT

Parents pay small sums towards the cost of treatment except when they are necessitous.

	Parents' payments.			Net cost to Committee		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Operations for throat and nose defects	25	7	6	119	3	6
Provision of spectacles	31	7	9	5	16	3
X-ray treatment of ringworm		12	6	5	13	6
Dental treatment	63	18	0			
Treatment of minor ailments	1	16	7			
Total	£123	2	4			



## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

Table III in the Appendix gives statistics relating to blind, deaf, defective and epileptic children.

### BLIND CHILDREN

At the end of the year there was one "totally blind" child on the register.

There were 3 partially sighted, *i.e.*, "children who, though they cannot read ordinary school books or cannot read them without injury to their eye-sight, have such power of vision that they can appropriately be taught in a school for the partially sighted."

They are maintained in special schools.

### DEAF CHILDREN

There are 3 children "too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school" and 1 who can appropriately be taught only in a school for the "partially deaf." All are maintained in the Royal Deaf and Dumb School, Margate.

### EPILEPTICS

There are 4 on the register who suffer from "mild epilepsy." In addition one cripple child is subject to severe attacks of the disease.

### MENTAL DEFECTIVES

The register for children aged 7 to 16 years contains 86 names which represents 1 per cent. of the school roll.

There were in addition 8 border-line cases.

The 86 children are classified as follows :—

Notified to Local Control Authority during 1937 and previous years.	{	Imbeciles ... ..	23
		Feeble-Minded (Ineducable) ...	5
		Feeble-Minded (Educable)	
		(Special circumstances cases)	3
		Feeble-Minded (Educable) ...	55
			—
		Total ...	86
			—



I herewith submit the annual report of Miss Nugent, Secretary of the Kent Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare :—

“ The total number of children of school age under the supervision of the Association on January 1st, 1937, was fifty-three.

“ During the year five new cases were received from the School Medical Officer bringing the total to fifty-eight.

“ Of these the details are as follows :—

1. *Disposals.*

Transferred to County M.D. Committee for	
Statutory Supervision ... ..	2
Friendly Supervision ... ..	5
	— 7

2. *Supervised for Education Committee,*

under 16 years of age.

Attending Elementary School ... ..	30
Attending no School ... ..	14
At Residential Special Schools ... ..	6
In Medway Cottage Homes ... ..	1
	—51
	—
	58
	—

Total number of children under the supervision of the Association on December 31st, 1937 ... ..	51
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

“ *Reports.*

“ Fifty-eight reports have been rendered during the year, including First Reports on new cases, Annual Reports on routine cases and Special Reports on cases in which some action is thought to be desirable, including those where continued supervision is necessary and notification to the County Mental Deficiency Committee for Statutory or Friendly Supervision is recommended.

“ *Visits.*

“ Members of the staff have paid 113 visits to the homes of the children and have had interviews at the different schools when the Head Masters and Mistresses were seen.

*“ After Care.*

“ The Association has continued to keep in touch with those cases under or over 16 years of age who are attending no School.

“ Of the seven children reported above as having been transferred to the County Mental Deficiency Committee for Statutory or Friendly Supervision, one has been admitted to a Certified Institution, one is in a Public Assistance Institution, four are in regular work and can be considered self-supporting and one has irregular employment.

“ Of the fourteen children supervised for the Education Committee under the age of 16 but attending no School, nine are working regularly, two have only occasional jobs and three are at home entirely.

*“ Occupation Centre.*

“ The number on the register has varied between 25 and 20 during the year and the boys and girls have made a regular attendance and derived much benefit from the training given.

“ The older lads continue to work in their own group and they have been kept busy with orders for their stools, trays, rugs and leather work.

“ Seven voluntary helpers attend regularly and the assistance they give to Mrs. Mitchell and the Assistant Supervisor cannot really be estimated.

“ Two treats were thoroughly enjoyed by all during the year. In the Summer the children were invited to tea with a friend at Aylesford and the Winter term finished with the usual Christmas Party when games, tea and presents from the decorated tree were all much appreciated.

“ The thanks of the Association are due to all those who help forward the work in a voluntary capacity and also to the Medical Officer of Health and the Secretary of the Education Committee for their willing co-operation.”

S. G. NUGENT.

## SPECIAL SCHOOLS

There are none in the Borough but the Authority maintains children at the following institutions for the defects indicated :—

		No. of Children
Sunshine House, East Grinstead	...	1 Blind
Swiss Cottage School, London	...	1 Blind
White Oak School, Swanley	...	1 Trachoma

East London Home & School, Upper Clapton	2	Blind
Royal Deaf and Dumb School, Margate ...	4	Deaf and Dumb
Besford Court, Worcestershire ... ..	6	Mentally Defective
Kingsmead School, Hertford ... ..	1	Mentally Defective
St. Gabriel's Convalescent Home, Westgate-on-Sea	2	Delicate
Cheyne Hospital for Children, Chelsea ...	1	Delicate
Heritage Craft School, Chailey ... ..	3	Crippled
Northamptonshire Home for Girls ... ..	1	Anti-Social

### CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS

This was freely given as in previous years. Teachers are encouraged to send apparently unfit children to private doctors or to the clinics and are supplied with forms on which to return the names of those reported to be suffering from any form of infectious disease or to have been in contact therewith.

The success of the milk-in-schools scheme is dependent on the valuable assistance rendered by the teachers.

### CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES

The services of the inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. proved effective in a number of cases where parents persistently refused to obtain treatment for their children.

The Blind and Cripple Guild gave much-appreciated assistance.

### UNCLEANLINESS

The average number of visits to school departments by the nurses was 6. As a rule two visits per term are paid to the less satisfactory schools. As the majority of older boys are clean, those aged 11-12 years are examined only once yearly, whilst those over 12 are omitted from all inspections.

Total examinations numbered 22,759 and 509 individual children were found unclean. This represents 7.1% of the average attendance. 230 or 3.2% of the average attendance were so dirty that they were excluded from school. The corresponding percentages for the year 1925 were as high as 16.3 and 7.1 respectively.

The 509 unclean children were distributed as follows :—

In Infant and Mixed Schools	...	Approx. 53%
Girls' Schools	... ..	38%
Boys' Schools	... ..	8%

Figures for the years 1925-37 :—

Year	Percentage of average attendance found verminous			Percentage of average attendance excluded.
1925	...	...	16.3	7.1
1926	...	...	17.3	5.8
1927	...	...	12.6	5.3
1928	...	...	11.4	4.7
1929	...	...	8.9	3.2
1930	...	...	9.4	3.1
1931	...	...	10.1	4.4
1932	...	...	9.5	4.1
1933	...	...	10.5	4.5
1934	...	...	7.9	3.1
1935	...	...	7.7	3.2
1936	...	...	6.6	2.9
1937	...	...	7.1	3.2

Details relating to individual schools are given in the Table on page 88.

No legal proceedings were taken.



## EXCLUSION AND RETURN-TO-SCHOOL CERTIFICATES.

The number issued by the department during the year was 5,429. The conditions for which children were excluded are set out below :—

	1937	1936
Uncleanliness of head and body ... ..	349	284
Whooping Cough—cases 170 ; contacts 20 ...	190	439
Chicken Pox—cases 531 ; contacts 89 ... ..	620	137
Mumps—cases ... ..	593	500
Measles—cases 3 ; contacts — ... ..	3	1,012
German Measles—cases 11 ; contacts 9 ... ..	20	27
Scarlet Fever—cases 151 ; contacts 135 ... ..	286	119
Diphtheria—cases 28 ; contacts 34... ..	62	11
Impetigo ... ..	243	155
Scabies ... ..	94	97
Eczema ... ..	6	3
Ringworm ... ..	49	64
Other skin diseases, minor injuries, etc. ... ..	365	250
Catarrh, sore throats, colds, etc. ... ..	197	167
Defective vision, “sore eyes,” etc.... ..	112	129
Tubercular and pre-tubercular conditions... ..	4	9
Anæmia, debility, etc. ... ..	63	58
Enlarged glands ... ..	35	51
Bronchitis ... ..	18	37
Chorea ... ..	16	28
Ear disease ... ..	37	26
Heart disease ... ..	1	8
Epilepsy ... ..	2	6
Rheumatism ... ..	6	7
Convalescents from infectious disease ... ..	63	50
Convalescents from operations ... ..	129	122
Other conditions ... ..	254	284
Return to school certificates ... ..	1,612	1,443
Total ...	<u>5,429</u>	<u>5,523</u>

## INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

NAME OF SCHOOL.	Recognised Accommodation	Estimated Effective Accommodation	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Measles		German Measles		Whooping Cough		Chicken Pox		Mumps		Total Exclusions	
			Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts	Cases	Contacts		
<b>COUNCIL SCHOOLS.</b>																		
Byron Road	409	360	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	—	18	—	29	3
"	370	310	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	9	—	30	1
"	276	250	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	40	11	24	—	76	11
" Barnsole Road Junr.	422	390	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	25	1	74	—	112	9
"	418	380	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	12	1	39	—	64	8
"	358	300	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	—	20	4	88	—	161	13
"	470	370	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	11	—	11	—	26	10
Richmond Road	470	370	10	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	—	1	—	20	18
"	570	500	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	201	37	92	—	358	55
"	400	370	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	1	—	2	—
" Napier Road	400	370	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	2	—	9	—
"	400	370	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	31	4	7	—	55	7
"	372	340	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	1	1	23	—	44	2
" Hempstead School	200	200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	8	—	7	—	21	7
Arden Street	400	400	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	13	—	4	—	24	2
"	280	280	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	3	—	7	10
" Woodlands Senior	440	440	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	5	—	10	10
"	400	400	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	10
"	384	384	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	11	—	62	—	88	10
Rainham Junior	402	400	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	32	8	2	—	39	11
" Senior	400	400	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
"	400	400	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	5	—
"	400	400	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	16	—	31	—	70	16
Skinner Street	300	300	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	9	—	16	14
Forge Lane Junior	183	183	2	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	19	—	5	—	28	—	63	2
"	125	125	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	6	—	10	8
"	337	314	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	8	6
James Street	192	180	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canterbury Street	177	177	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	18	4	26	—	47	8
<b>NON-PROVIDED SCHOOLS.</b>																		
Holy Trinity Junior	177	177	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
"	202	162	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	5	3	8	—	21	9
S. Aloysius, R.C.	280	280	7	—	—	6	—	—	2	—	14	—	27	5	5	—	58	22
S. Mary's R.C.	256	256	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Rainham C. of E.	90	90	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
"																		
TOTAL ..	10,383	9,681	147	128	28	32	3	—	11	9	170	20	531	89	593	—	1483	278
																		1761

PERCENTAGES OF UNCLEANLINESS IN SCHOOLS.

NAME OF SCHOOL.	Recognised Accommodation.	Estimated Effective Accommodation.	No. on Roll Dec., 1937	Number of individual children found unclean	Percentage of children on Roll found unclean			Number of individual children excluded	Percentage of children on Roll excluded		
					1937	1936	1935		1937	1936	1935
<b>COUNCIL SCHOOLS.</b>											
Byron Road ..	409	360	325	2	.6	.3	—	1	.3	.3	—
" "	370	310	320	12	3.7	2.2	1.9	7	2.2	.6	.3
" "	276	250	222	4	1.8	2.3	1.0	1	.4	.9	—
Barnsole Road Junr.	422	390	393	8	2.0	1.6	.8	4	1.0	.8	.3
" "	418	380	380	23	6.0	7.8	8.0	10	2.6	3.6	3.7
" "	358	300	269	7	2.6	2.2	4.3	1	.4	1.4	1.3
Richmond Road ..	470	370	369	9	2.4	1.4	4.6	3	.8	1.2	1.7
" "	470	370	418	55	13.1	8.4	13.6	25	6.0	4.1	6.8
" "	570	500	395	40	10.1	6.6	6.6	16	4.0	3.7	3.0
" Napier Road ..	400	370	343	7	2.0	.9	.8	5	1.4	.6	.3
" "	400	370	342	23	6.7	8.2	9.1	10	2.9	4.4	.3
" "	372	340	155	9	5.8	3.0	5.0	7	4.5	.6	2.1
Hempstead Junior ..	200	200	126	14	11.1	17.8	18.1	5	4.0	7.7	10.9
Arden Street ..	400	400	356	4	1.1	.8	1.4	1	.3	—	.3
" "	280	280	240	18	7.5	8.4	12.9	6	2.5	2.5	2.6
Woodlands Senior ..	440	440	348	2	.6	—	—	1	.3	—	—
" "	400	400	334	24	7.2	1.7	.9	18	5.4	.3	.6
" "	384	384	242	23	9.5	4.8	5.8	15	6.2	—	4.3
Rainham Junior ..	402	400	379	23	6.0	6.1	4.8	11	2.9	1.8	2.0
" Senior ..	400	400	246	2	.8	.7	2.9	2	.8	—	1.8
" "	400	400	273	20	7.3	6.1	7.5	5	1.8	2.6	3.0
Skinner Street ..	300	300	174	12	6.9	7.3	6.4	6	3.4	3.1	2.1
Forge Lane Junior ..	183	183	190	29	15.2	—	—	8	4.2	—	—
" "	125	125	91	10	10.9	25.7	31.3	5	5.5	11.0	13.1
" James Street ..	337	314	153	7	4.6	.6	8.0	2	1.3	.6	—
Canterbury Street ..	192	180	105	15	14.3	15.5	24.1	6	5.7	6.5	11.0
<b>NON-PROVIDED SCHOOLS.</b>											
Holy Trinity Junior ..	177	177	135	40	29.6	28.3	16.6	23	17.0	12.0	8.0
S. Aloysius, R.C. ..	202	162	77	30	39.0	41.4	37.0	14	18.2	24.4	11.0
" "	280	280	262	26	10.0	10.3	13.9	7	2.6	4.0	5.0
S. Mary's R.C. ..	256	256	202	8	4.0	5.7	8.6	3	1.5	3.1	6.5
Rainham C. of E. ..	90	90	92	3	3.2	3.6	5.5	2	2.1	2.4	3.3
" "											
TOTAL	10,383	9,681	7,956	509	6.4(a)	5.9	7.1	230	2.9(b)	2.6	2.9

(a) or 7.1% of average attendance.  
(b) or 3.2% of average attendance.

(b) or 3.2% of average attendance

(a) or 7.1% of average attendance.





BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# Statistical Tables

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These give a detailed record of the work carried out  
during the year.

# MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937

## TABLE I—MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

### A.—Routine Medical Inspections

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups

Entrants	...	...	...	1063
Second Age Group	...	...	...	916
Third Age Group	...	...	...	835
Total	...	...	...	<u>2,814</u>

Number of other Routine Inspections ... 21

GRAND TOTAL ... 2,835

### B.—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	1,932
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	1,988
Total	...	...	<u>3,920</u>

**C.— Children found to Require Treatment. Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness, and Dental Diseases).**

GROUP (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For all other con- ditions recorded in Table IIA. (3)	Total (4)
Entrants ...	4	151	155
Second Age Group ...	57	85	139
Third Age Group ...	43	47	90
Total (Prescribed Groups) ...	104	283	384
Other Routine Inspections ...	—	2	2
GRAND TOTAL ...	104	285	386

TABLE II. A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection  
in the Year ended 31st December, 1937.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.		Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	(1) Ringworm—Scalp ...	—	—	5	—
	(2) „ Body ...	—	—	17	—
	(3) Scabies ... ..	1	—	31	—
	(4) Impetigo ... ..	2	—	86	—
	(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	8	—	374	—
	TOTAL (Heads 1 to 5)	11	—	513	—
Eye	(6) Blepharitis ... ..	2	—	7	—
	(7) Conjunctivitis ... ..	4	—	62	—
	(8) Keratitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
	(9) Corneal Opacities ...	—	—	—	—
	(10) Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint) ... ..	1	—	39	—
	TOTAL (Heads 6 to 10)	7	—	108	—
Ear	(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ... ..	104	32	196	2
	(12) Squint ... ..	9	1	17	—
	(13) Defective Hearing ...	7	3	8	2
	(14) Otitis Media ... ..	4	—	34	—
	(15) Other Ear Diseases ...	2	1	24	—
Nose and Throat	(16) Chronic Tonsillitis only	9	14	14	4
	(17) Adenoids only ... ..	2	1	—	2
	(18) Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids... ..	162	119	151	11
	(19) Other Conditions ...	13	1	131	1
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..		1	9	20	2
(21) Defective Speech ... ..		1	—	—	—
Heart Disease :—					
Heart and Circulation	(22) Organic ... ..	2	32	2	9
	(23) Functional ... ..	—	3	—	—
	(24) Anaemia ... ..	6	2	34	—
Lungs	(25) Bronchitis ... ..	13	3	22	1
	(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	3	8	31	2

Table II. (Continued).

DEFECT OR DISEASE.				Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
				No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
				Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Tuber- culosis	Pulmonary :—						
	(27) Definite ...	...	...	—	—	1	—
	(28) Suspected ...	...	...	1	—	7	1
	Non-Pulmonary :—						
	(29) Glands ...	...	...	—	2	3	2
	(30) Bones and Joints ...	...	...	—	1	—	—
	(31) Skin ...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	(32) Other Forms ...	...	...	—	—	—	1
	TOTAL (Heads 29 to 32)			—	3	3	3
Nervous System	(33) Epilepsy ...	...	...	—	—	3	2
	(34) Chorea ...	...	...	2	—	9	1
	(35) Other Conditions ...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Deform- ities	(36) Rickets ...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	(37) Spinal Curvature ...	...	...	6	16	4	1
	(38) Other Forms ...	...	...	8	—	18	5
(39) Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) ...				31	2	178	10
Total ...				404	250	1528	59

**B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.**

AGE GROUPS.	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	1063	67	6.3	986	92.8	10	.9	—	—
Second Age-group ...	916	72	7.9	820	89.6	23	2.5	1	—
Third Age-group ...	835	208	25.0	594	71.0	33	4.0	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	21	2	10.0	19	90.0	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2835	249	12.3	2419	85.3	66	2.4	1	—



TABLE III.

**Blind Children.**

A blind child is defined by Section 69 of the Education Act, 1921, as one who is "too blind to be able to read the ordinary school books used by children."

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
1	—	—	—	1

**Partially Sighted Children.**

Children who, though they cannot read ordinary school books or cannot read them without injury to their eyesight, have such power of vision that they can appropriately be taught in a school for the partially sighted.

Children who are able by means of suitable glasses to read the ordinary school books used by children without fatigue or injury to their vision are not included in this Table.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
3	—	—	1	—	4

**Deaf Children.**

A deaf child is defined by Section 69 of the Education Act, 1921, as one who is "too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school."

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
3	—	—	—	3

Table III. (Continued).

**Partially Deaf Children.**

Children who can appropriately be taught only in a school for the partially deaf.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
I	—	—	—	—	I

**MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.****Feeble-minded Children.**

Mentally Defective children are children who, not being imbecile and not being merely dull or backward, are incapable by reason of mental defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary Public Elementary Schools but are not incapable by reason of that defect of receiving benefit from instruction in Special Schools for mentally defective children.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
7	32	2	12	53*

**EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.****Children suffering from Severe Epilepsy.**

Children who are epileptic within the meaning of the Act, i.e., children who, not being idiots or imbeciles, are unfit by reason of severe epilepsy to attend the ordinary Public Elementary Schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—

\*In addition, 5 boys and 3 girls have been classified as "borderline" cases

Table III. (Continued).

**PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.****A. Tuberculous Children.**

Only children diagnosed as tuberculous and requiring treatment for tuberculosis at a sanatorium, a dispensary, or elsewhere are recorded in this category.

**I.—Children suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

(Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands.)

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	2	—	—	2

**II.—Children suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

(This category includes tuberculosis of all sites other than those shown in I. above.)

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	3	2	2	7

**B. Delicate Children.**

This Section is confined to children (except those included in other groups) whose general health renders it desirable that they should be specially selected for admission to an Open Air School.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
2	11	3	2	18

Table III. (Continued).

**C. Crippled Children.**

Children (other than those diagnosed as tuberculous and in need of treatment for that disease) who are suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere materially with a child's normal mode of life, i.e., children who generally speaking are unable to take part, in any complete sense, in physical exercises or games or such activities of the school curriculum as gardening or forms of handwork usually engaged in by other children, and in whose case the Medical Officer is prepared to certify under Section 55 of the Education Act, 1921, that they are incapable by reason of such physical defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary Public Elementary Schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
3	3	4	4	14

**D. Children with Heart Disease.**

Children in whose case the Medical Officer is prepared to certify, under Section 55 of the Education Act, 1921, that they are incapable by reason of such physical defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary Public Elementary Schools.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	1	1

**Children suffering from Multiple Defects.**

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
Feeble-minded and cripple ... ..	—	—	—	1	1
Severe Epilepsy and cripple ...	—	—	—	1	1
Feeble-minded and deaf ...	—	—	—	1	1



TABLE IV.

## Treatment Tables

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table VI.).

Disease or Defect.  (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.  (2)	Otherwise.  (3)	Total.  (4)
Skin :			
Ringworm-Scalp—			
(i). X-Ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash.	4	—	4
(ii). Other Treatment ...	—	1	1
Ringworm-Body ... ..	18	—	18
Scabies ... ..	34	—	34
Impetigo ... ..	219	7	226
Other skin disease ... ..	66	10	73
Minor Eye Defects ... ..	182	10	192
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II).			
Minor Ear Defects ... ..	98	9	107
Miscellaneous ... ..			
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.).	743	18	761
Total ... ..	1364	55	1419

Table IV. (Continued).

Group II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

	No. of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including squint). ... ..	324	27	351
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) ... ..	—	1	1
Total ... ..	324	28	352
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
No. of Children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed ... ..	225	25	250
(b) Obtained ... ..	213	31	244

Table IV. (Continued).

Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.													
Received Operative Treatment.												Received other forms of Treat- ment	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.				Total.					
(1)				(2)				(3)					
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)		(5)
3	—	115	—	3	—	54	—	6	—	169	—	146	321

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.  
(iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

**Group IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS**

	Under the Authority's Scheme.			Otherwise.			Total number treated.
	(1)			(2)			
	Residential treatment with education (i)	Residential treatment without education (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic (iii)	Residential treatment with education (i)	Residential treatment without education (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic (iii)	
Number of children treated	3	—	—	—	4	31	38

**TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.**

The heading "Specials" in this Table relates to all children inspected by the School Dentist otherwise than in the course of the routine inspection of children in one of the age groups covered by the Authority's approved scheme, namely, to children specially selected by him, or referred by Medical Officers, Parents, Teachers, etc., on account of urgency.

Temporary fillings, whether in permanent or temporary teeth, are recorded as other operations.

**(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist :****(a) Routine age-groups**

AGE	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Number ...	759	763	838	823	783	813	721	677	637	341	7155
(b) Specials ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	486
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7641
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1319
(3) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	821
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6058
(5) Half-days devoted to :—											
Inspection	49—										
Treatment	453—										
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	502
(6) Fillings :—											
Permanent Teeth	2364—										
Temporary Teeth	3—										
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2367
(7) Extractions :—											
Permanent Teeth	318—										
Temporary Teeth	2966—										
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3284
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1059
(9) Other Operations :—											
Permanent Teeth	440—										
Temporary Teeth	8—										
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	448

**TABLE VI.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

(i) Average number of visits per school department made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	6
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	22,759
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	509
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	—
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :			
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	—

## Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928

Statement of the number of Children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1937, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority.

Total number of children notified—2.

## Analysis of the above Total.

Diagnosis.						Boys	Girls	
1.	(i) Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School :							
	(a)	Idiots	...	...	...	...	—	—
	(b)	Imbeciles	...	...	...	...	2	—
	(c)	Others	...	...	...	...	—	—
	(ii) Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of other children :							
	(a)	Moral defectives	...	...	...	...	—	—
	(b)	Others	...	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16...						—	—
3.	Feeble-minded children notified under Article 3, i.e., "special circumstances" cases						—	—
<i>Note.</i> —No child should be notified under Article 3 until the Board have issued a formal certificate (Form 308M) to the Authority.								
4.	Children who in addition to being mentally defective were blind or deaf						—	—
<i>Note.</i> —No blind or deaf child should be notified without reference to the Board—see Article 2, proviso (ii).								
Grand Total						...	2	—







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